

**Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship  
PATH Intl Approved Training Course Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M F Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current, Associated Riding Center(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Application Check List**

- I am 18 years of age or older.
- I am a current PATH Intl. Individual Member. (please include a copy of your member card) Member # \_\_\_\_\_
- Resume
- Letter of intent addressing reasons for applying to course and intention upon graduation
- At least 1 written professional reference
- Riding History Questionnaire (included in this packet)
- Documentation of 10 hours riding instruction
- Video or demonstration of Riding Pattern
- Stable management exam (included in this packet)
- Non-refundable application fee of \$150

Housing with host families is available for candidates coming from out of the Dallas area.

Please complete the housing request form included in this application if housing is required.



**Equest Instructor Training Course  
Riding History Questionnaire**

1. In which riding seat do you feel most comfortable, secure and effective? (May circle multiple)

Hunt Seat                  Dressage                  Western                  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. In what disciplines have you taken formal riding lessons and for how long?

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3. Do you have any show experience? Define the length of time and discipline.

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4. How many years have you taught formal riding lessons and in which disciplines?

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5. Do you hold any equine related certifications, degrees and/or titles?

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6. Do you have any other specialized equine knowledge and/or training? (carriage driving, vaulting, etc.)

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7. Briefly explain your riding and training philosophy.

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**Equest Instructor Training Course  
Documentation of Teaching Hours**

May include teaching any number of individuals (able-bodied or riders with disabilities), in any seat style.  
This is to ensure you have *some* teaching experience.

Date	Location	Discipline	Number of Students	Hours
<b>Total Hours:</b> _____				

This document is intended for acceptance into the Equest course only. These hours may or may not be valid for the PATH Intl. Documentation of Teaching Hours.

**Equest Therapeutic Riding Instructor Training Course  
Housing Request Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Course dates \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have any pet allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
Currently, housing is available through host families. Student instructors will be responsible for their own transportation between the host house and the Equest facility.

**Student Requirements**

1. Student will understand that they will be living in the private home of a family who has graciously opened their home, and student will respect the rules of the house.
2. Student will be expected to purchase and prepare their own food and do their own laundry.
3. Should a significant problem arise between host family and student, the student is to inform the director of Equest's Instructor Training Course as soon as possible. If a problem cannot be resolved successfully, Equest will work with the family and student to coordinate an alternative housing arrangement.
4. There is absolutely no smoking or recreational drug use allowed in any host family homes.
5. Student must have their own vehicle for traveling between the host home and the course facility.
6. Housing fee is \$900 plus a \$100 security deposit for the course length and must be paid by due date listed in the course information packet when the initial course payment is made.

Additional information or special considerations we should know when assigning housing:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Equest Instructor Training Course Riding Skills Test – A word from PATH Intl.

Walk, trot, jog, canter, lope ...

Most horses understand these voice commands as well as the rider's natural aids needed to perform them, no matter what they're called. Horses show no bias when it comes to doing their job.

The PATH Intl Riding Certification Subcommittee stresses that the PATH Intl certification program and testing also shows no bias. The subcommittee has gathered feedback from certification candidates and recognizes some clarification of the certification process, especially the riding component, may be helpful.

**A therapeutic horseback riding instructor needs to know and demonstrate bending, straightness of lines, control of the horse, along with correct posture and balance, body alignment, posting with the motion of the horse, canter leads, and the like. When teaching riders for whom balance is a primary goal, an understanding of these principles is critical. Additionally, these riding skills allow PATH Intl instructors to evaluate a prospective therapy horse for a program and to appropriately match equines and participants. In order to teach riding and evaluate equines, PATH Intl's Riding Certification Subcommittee has defined the criteria that objectively demonstrate these important skills.**

Some riding disciplines may spend more time working on these basic principles than others, but the basics are appropriate for all disciplines. After years of riding, no matter the discipline, candidates can benefit from reviewing these basics. It's a good idea to look over the PATH Intl riding certification criteria for the riding demonstration as you evaluate your riding skills, practice the pattern and review arena skills. Even confident and seasoned riders can benefit from studying the criteria and reaching back to those basic principles as they prepare for PATH Intl's certification test. The certification environment is often less relaxed than one's home environment, and arriving at the certification test knowledgeable about and fully prepared to meet all criteria ensures a greater level of confidence.

It is the evaluator's job to watch each candidate without bias. Whether an English or Western rider, beginner or advanced rider, the riding criteria is what is being tested, not the type of saddle, equipment or personal choice of discipline. The question PATH Intl evaluators answer is: Has the rider demonstrated knowledge of the skills necessary to benefit riders with disabilities as outlined in the PATH Intl Registered Instructor criteria. If yes, the candidate will pass the riding portion of the PATH Intl Registered Instructor certification test.

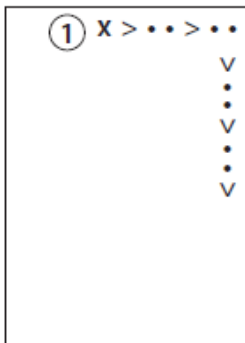
Helpful hints for producing your video (this is your chance to show off!):

- \* Please review your video before you submit it! Test the DVD or the YouTube link to make sure they work.
- \* If you are riding in a large arena – please make sure you and your horse reasonably fill the screen; you don't want to be a "dot" in the distance and you don't want just your foot visible on the screen.
- \* If you are riding inside – please make sure the lighting is good and that your video is not too dark.
- \* If you are riding outside, please be aware of lighting and heavy shadows. If it is very windy consider using a tripod to steady your camera.
- \* Please make sure you and your horse are in focus!

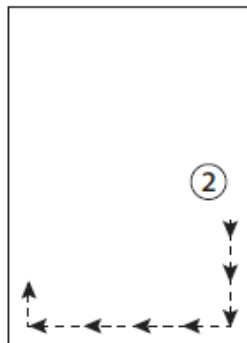
The riding skills test is one of the entrance exams for Equest's PATH Intl. Approved Instructor Training Course. The test may be ridden in either English or Western tack. The video should be 10-

15min in length and must include a warm up phase. The video may be mailed with the application or posted to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) for review.

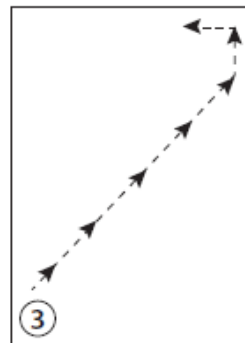
A successful test will include a rider in correct position with a balanced seat and proper alignment. Rider must demonstrate the ability to maintain consistency within gaits, appropriate bending/flexion through turns and appropriate contact at all gaits. Rider must have effective use of natural aids (hand, seat, legs) as well as demonstrate working knowledge of correct posting diagonals and cantering leads. Memorization of the pattern is not necessary – someone may call it out to you. All riders must wear appropriately fitted ASTM/SEI approved helmet.



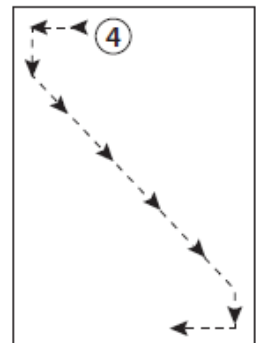
1. Halt. Proceed at the walk.



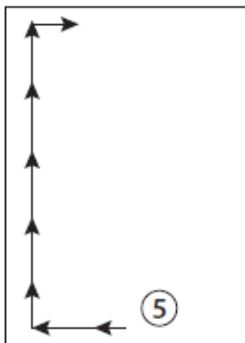
2. Posting Trot



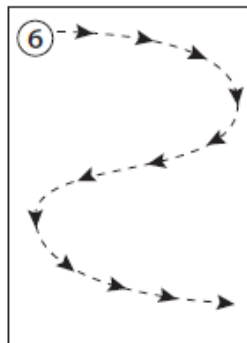
3. Change rein across the diagonal at the posting trot.



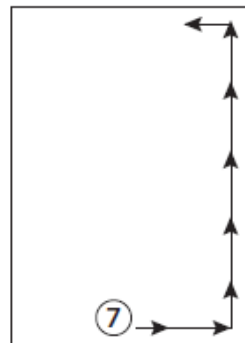
4. Change rein across diagonal at a sitting trot/jog



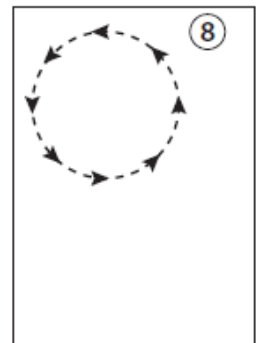
5. Canter/Lope right rein



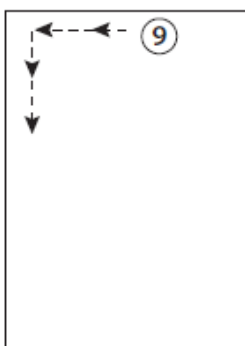
6. Posting Trot  
Large half circle  
Large half circle left



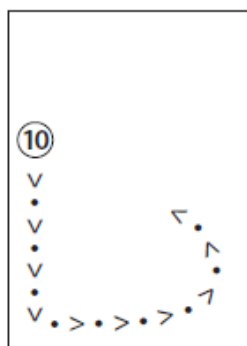
7. Canter/Lope left rein



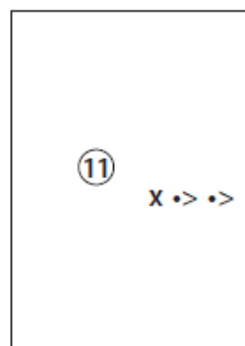
8. Sitting trot/jog  
Large circle



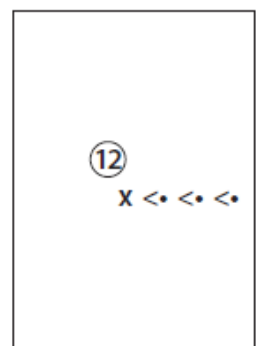
9. Sitting trot/jog



10. Walk forward into the center of the arena



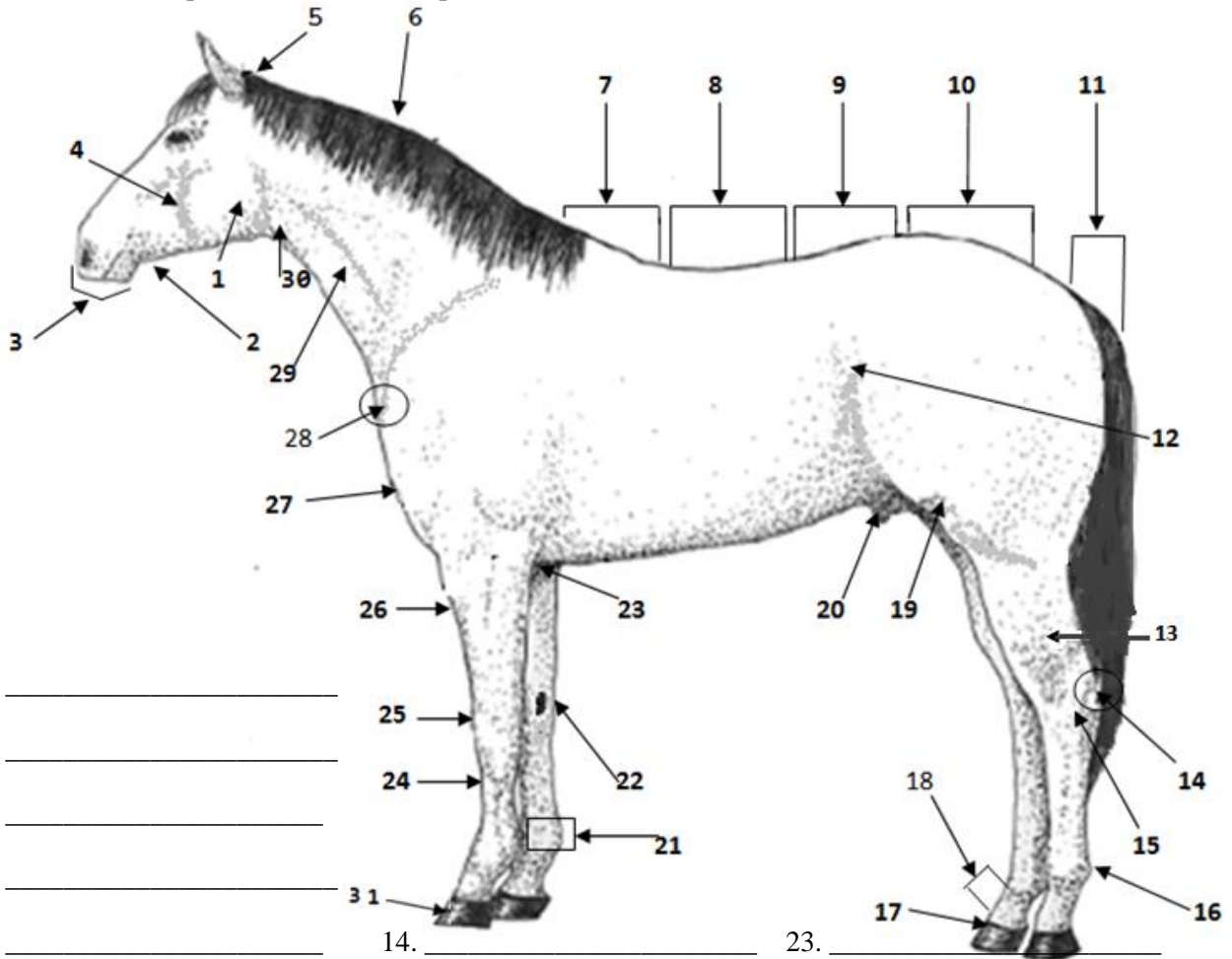
11. Halt & back 3-4 steps in center of arena.



12. Walk forward, halt & dismount in center of arena

### Equest Instructor Training Course Stable Management Exam

1. Label the parts of the horse (31 points)



- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 14. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 15. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 16. _____ | 25. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 17. _____ | 26. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 18. _____ | 27. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 19. _____ | 28. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 20. _____ | 29. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 21. _____ | 30. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 22. _____ | 31. _____ |

2. Describe a general feeding program for a mature 15hh horse that weighs 1000lbs and is in moderate work. (10 pts)

3. Describe a yearly vaccination schedule for a mature horse in moderate work that sometimes leaves the property for local shows and trail rides. (12 points)





6. How would you treat a puncture wound to the hoof? (10 points)

7. How would you treat a swollen fetlock? (10 points)

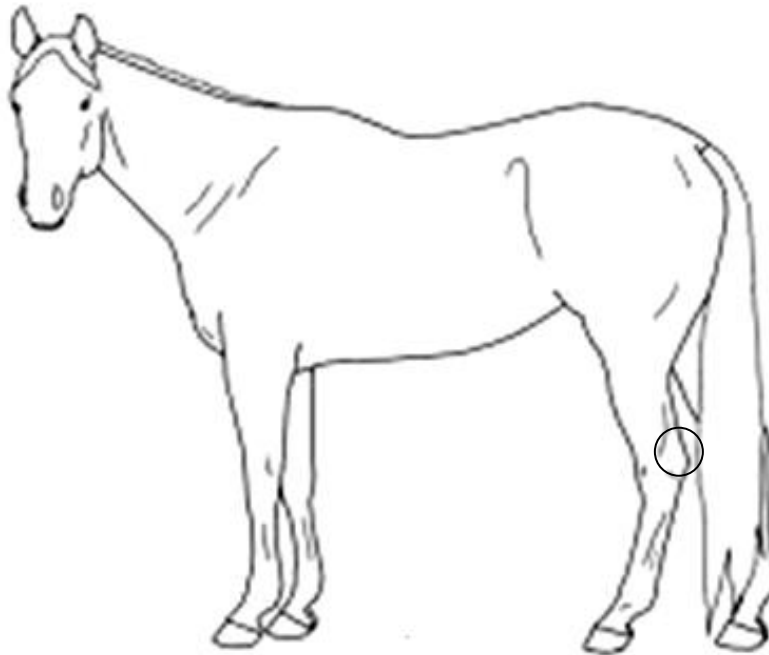
8. List 5 factors to consider in deciding a feeding program. (10 points)

9. List 10 items you would keep in an equine first aid kit/medicine cabinet. (20 points)

10. How is colic identified in a horse and how should it be treated?

11. On the following diagram, indicate where you would most likely find the following:  
(20 points)

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Splint       | 6. Quarter crack |
| 2. Ergot        | 7. Capped hock   |
| 3. Capped elbow | 8. Bog spavin    |
| 4. Scratches    | 9. Thoroughpin   |
| 5. Windpuff     | 10. Stringhalt   |



13. Matching (20 points)

1. Over-reaching
2. Daisy cutting
3. Interfering
4. Port
5. Floating
6. Pigeon-toed
7. Forging
8. Splay footed
9. Broken wind
10. Sickle hocked

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| _____ | A. Striking fetlocks with opposite hoof  |
| _____ | B. Hocks with excessive angles           |
| _____ | C. Raised center of a bit                |
| _____ | D. Striking front heels with hind hooves |
| _____ | E. Hitting front shoe with hind shoe     |
| _____ | F. Action low to the ground              |
| _____ | G. Toes turn out                         |
| _____ | H. Toes turn in                          |
| _____ | I. Filing of teeth                       |
| _____ | J. Heave                                 |

## 14. Matching (32 points)

- |                       |                               |                                       |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. _____ Bowed Tendon | 7. _____ Osselets             | 13. _____ Curb                        |
| 2. _____ Ringbone     | 8. _____ Thoroughpin          | 14. _____ Equine<br>Encephalomyelitis |
| 3. _____ Corns        | 9. _____ Thrush               | 15. _____ Heaves                      |
| 4. _____ Bone Spavin  | 10. _____ Bucked Shins        | 16. _____ Strangles                   |
| 5. _____ Navicular    | 11. _____ Laminitis (founder) | 17. _____ Equine Infectious<br>Anemia |
| 6. _____ Sidebone     | 12. _____ Azatouria           |                                       |

- A. A non-contagious metabolic condition where there is a breakdown by metabolic changes. Symptoms include stiffness in the hind end, unwillingness to move forward, tenseness, quivering, sweating, and restlessness.
- B. Arthritis and new bone growth on the 1<sup>st</sup> phalanx, or 3<sup>rd</sup> phalanx of the horse.
- C. A sprain of the plantar ligament of the hock due to excess strain of the back of the hock.
- D. A bruise caused by pressure of a shoe in the wrong place.
- E. Wearing of the tendon fibers and tendon sheath due to trauma resulting in a strain.
- F. A virus carried in the blood, transmitted by some flies and mosquitoes. The symptoms can include fever, depression, and weight loss. There is no vaccination for this disease.
- G. A virus carried in the blood transmitted from birds to the horse by mosquitoes. It affects the brain and nervous system, causing high fever, paralysis, and death. There is a vaccine for this disease.
- H. Arthritis of the fetlock, causing new bone growth.
- I. A non-contagious disorder which can cause inflammation of the laminae of the foot. The feet are hot and painful and have a strong digital pulse. The coffin bone may rotate.
- J. An overproduction of synovial fluid due to stress on the upper part of the hock.
- K. The lateral cartilage of the foot becomes ossified and turns to bone due to concussion or the aging process.
- L. Arthritis involving the bones of the medial side of the hock.
- M. Inflammation of the periosteum of the cannon bone due to concussion.
- N. A non-contagious respiratory condition caused by allergies, or degeneration of the lung tissue. Horses with this condition will cough or wheeze, especially during exercise.
- O. A condition that may be found in the hooves of horses that have been kept in wet conditions in their stalls or pastures.
- P. Bone spurs, arthritis, and/or degeneration of a tiny bone in the hoof.
- Q. A disease caused by bacteria transmitted in mucus or contaminated in mucus or contaminated feed or water. Symptoms include lack of appetite, fever, nasal discharge, and lymph nodes that swell, abscess or rupture.