



Dear Instructor Training Course Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in Equest's PATH International-Approved Therapeutic Riding Instructor Training Course. Vacancies for the course are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to secure a spot, please submit your application as early as possible.

**Application Requirements:**

1. 18 years of age or older
2. Current PATH Intl. Individual Member
3. Resume
4. Letter of intent addressing reasons for applying to course and intention upon graduation
5. Professional Reference
6. Riding History Questionnaire
7. Documentation of 10 hours as riding instructor
8. Stable management exam
9. Video or demonstration of PATH Intl. Registered Level Riding Pattern  
 You may send a DVD or post it on YouTube and notify us of this. This should be 10 to 15 minutes in length showing a warm up phase and riding the attached pattern. Please note, the pattern may be ridden in English or Western tack but posting is required in all disciplines. If you have any questions or concerns about what your video should include, please contact us promptly.
10. Nonrefundable application fee of \$150

**The deadline for submitting your application and video is July 1<sup>st</sup> for the August 2026 course**

**The upcoming course dates are August 20<sup>th</sup> - October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Once your video and application materials have been received, we will notify you that we have received it within 15 business days. Final confirmation of acceptance will be sent July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Vacancies are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The earlier you submit your materials, the better chance you will have of securing a place in the course.

The course is designed to follow a Tuesday through Saturday format. Classes meet additional Mondays and evenings as needed. Student instructors should plan for study and preparation time during the evening and weekend hours. A detailed course calendar will be provided on the first day of the course.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to having you join us!

**Kirsten Cozart**  
**Education Coordinator**  
**Email [kcozart@equest.org](mailto:kcozart@equest.org)**  
**T: 972-412-1099 X216**  
**F: 972-947-3940**

## Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship PATH International-Approved Instructor Training Course

### Information

Equest's PATH Intl. Approved Training Course is designed for experienced horse people who wish to pursue careers as therapeutic riding instructors. Candidates of all riding backgrounds are accepted into our instructor training program; from western, saddle seat, dressage, hunter, combined training, rodeo, pleasure riding, and ranching. Our training course provides the educational component and the mentored teaching hours required for PATH Intl. CTRI certification.

Students who successfully pass the course and meet all other PATH Intl requirements will be prepared for testing for the CTRI certification. If you wish to achieve PATH Intl Advanced level certification at Equest, please contact us for further information.

### Pre-requisites to attend the Equest PATH Intl-Approved Training Course

- ☞ Applicant must be a minimum of 18 years old.
- ☞ Applicant must be a current professional member of PATH International ([www.PATHIntl.org](http://www.PATHIntl.org) to join)
- ☞ Applicants must submit and pass two entrance exams to be accepted into the course:
  - **A stable management written exam:** Open book exam, included in the application packet, covers:
    - + stable management
    - + basic nutrition
    - + conformation
    - + blemishes and unsoundnesses
    - + health care and first-aid treatment.

This exam must be submitted with the application and a passing grade of 90% or better is required to be admitted. Please contact us if you would like suggestions for information resources.
  - **A riding skills test:** An applicant's riding experience must be such that he/she feels comfortable and proficient riding a horse in a frame with a balanced seat to perform the following:
    - + Walk, trot, canter with correct diagonals and leads
    - + Two-point position, including work over ground poles
    - + Leg yielding, suppling exercises, and simple changes of lead
    - + Turn on the forehand, turn on the haunches

The riding test is a demonstration of the enclosed pattern (plus a warm-up phase) and may be submitted as a 10 to 15 minute video/DVD either mailed to us or posted on [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com). The test may be ridden in either english or western tack.

All riders, regardless of discipline, must demonstrate posting on the correct diagonal. All riders must wear an ASTM-approved helmet.
- ☞ Applicants must document at least 10 hours of experience teaching riding to able-bodied and/or disabled individuals. This lets us know your teaching experience prior to coming to Equest.

- ☞ Regardless of your equestrian background, we ask all candidates to be familiar with the english discipline prior to attending the course. This is the style that most of our riders with disabilities ride and that you will be expected to teach. You will be asked to tack horses and ride in english and western tack while you are here.

### **Equest ITC Curriculum and Evaluations:**

The curriculum is presented at the PATH Intl Advanced educational level and includes:

Teaching Methodology	Human Psychology	Disabilities
Mounting Techniques	Adaptive Equipment	Volunteer Management
The Therapy Horse	Skill Progression	Hippotherapy theory
Long Lining	Therapeutic Driving	Interactive Vaulting
Human Anatomy and Kinesiology		

The first part of the approximately 8-week course will focus on lectures and hands-on work with the horses. Written exams will be given each week to ensure that the students are successfully mastering the information presented in the lectures. We will make accommodations for learning differences if we are informed of the need. Foreign students must be reasonably fluent in English as they will be making presentations and teaching our riders. We will, to the best of our ability, help students cross the translation barrier; we **STRONGLY** encourage foreign students to bring translation dictionaries (either hard-bound or electronic.)

The second part of the course will be student teaching. Students will be mentored by Equest instructors who will provide guidance and feedback. This is a busy and stressful part of the course as we prepare the student instructors for pre-requisites for PATH Intl. CTRI certification.

An Equest certificate will be awarded to all students who achieve a passing grade in all aspects of the course. A grade average of 70% must be achieved to pass the course. Practice teaching and written exam scores will be averaged separately, and a single score will be figured for the final grade.

### **Equest ITC Fees:**

<b>Application fee:</b>	\$150.00 <b><u>non-refundable</u></b> , (due with the application; deadline is July 1 <sup>st</sup> )
<b>Tuition Balance:</b>	\$2,000.00 (July 5 <sup>th</sup> )
	<u>\$1,000.00</u> (August 1 <sup>st</sup> )
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,150.00</b>

### **Tuition Fees include:**

Text books, printed materials, 25 mentored teaching hours, CTRI certification prerequisites  
Housing is optional (see below)

### **Tuition Fees do NOT include:**

Housing (see below), food, travel expenses, local transportation, and personal expenses  
 CPR/First aid certification  
 PATH Intl. Standards course

### **Additional/Optional Fees:**

Housing = Varies by situation

For those who wish to have, or who require housing, we have host family accommodations available for the duration for the course. Please ask for additional details and different options.

**Candidates are registered on a first-come, first-served basis.  
We will maintain a waiting list and notify you of an available opening**

**Cancellation and Transfer Policy:**

Candidates who become unable to attend the course in which they have a reserved spot and wish to transfer to a later course may do so with no financial penalty **IF** the notification reaches us by the published deadline of the course. If the cancellation notice reaches us after the published application deadline, and we **are** able to fill the spot then the received payment will transfer. If we are **unable** to fill the spot, the candidate will forfeit the application fee plus \$75 of the tuition balance.

**Payment Schedule:**

The tuition balance may be paid as follows:

July 10<sup>th</sup>:           \$2,000 (first payment)

August 1<sup>st</sup>:         \$1,000 (second payment)

We accept major credit cards and checks payable to **Equest** drawn upon U.S. banks. All bank transfer fees are the responsibility of the student and are in addition to the course tuition. If you wish to pay by credit card, please call us during business hours (9am to 5pm Central Time, Monday through Friday) with your information. Declined credit cards or NSF checks will cancel an applicant's registration.

**Please mail your completed application and \$150 application fee to our mailing address:**

**Equest  
P.O. Box 171779  
Dallas, Texas 75217**

**You can also scan your completed application and email it to [kcozart@equest.org](mailto:kcozart@equest.org)**

**For questions or concerns, please contact:**

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