

## ARTICLE IX

### CREDENTIALING COUNCIL

**Section 1. Purpose** – The purpose of the Credentialing Council is the development and operation of voluntary certification programs for individuals who provide equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs and the development and operation of a voluntary accreditation process to recognize centers.

**Section 2. Autonomy** – The PATH Intl. Credentialing Council has responsibility for all essential activities of PATH Intl. Certification and Accreditation. Policies and procedures with respect to certification and accreditation will be set by the Credentialing Council. The Credentialing Council will operate independently of the PATH Intl. Board of Trustees or the membership. The Credentialing Council has authority over all certification and accreditation decisions including, but not limited to: establishing eligibility and recertification requirements, establishing policies, disciplinary determinations, exam development, exam administration, exam scoring, and selection of subject-matter experts (SMEs). An annual report to the Board of Trustees will be provided. The Board of Trustees, if it wishes, may appoint a Board member as a non-voting liaison to the Credentialing Council. The Council may form work groups, committees, task forces, or appoint liaisons as necessary.

**Section 3. Structure** - The Credentialing Council functions as a division within PATH Intl. The PATH Intl. Board of Trustees retains general governance authority over the Credentialing Council; however the Credentialing Council functions autonomously with respect to certification and accreditation.