



PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THERAPEUTIC HORSEMANSHIP INTERNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP

REGISTERED LEVEL CERTIFICATION CRITERIA

Register Instructor:

Course Objective: Includes preparation of candidates to become safe, knowledgeable, and effective therapeutic riding instructors consistent with the levels of PATH Intl. Instructor Certification.

The following hours are mandatory minimum requirements. Individual institutions/centers may increase the hours according to their design of the course.

A PATH Intl. Registered Instructor must be competent in basic levels of equine management, horsemanship, riding instruction, teaching methodologies and disabilities. The list below itemizes the skills and subject matter that a registered instructor is expected to know and/or demonstrate. "Know" indicates the knowledge of what a movement or skill is, how it is performed, the aids to accomplish the skill, and the purpose or benefit of the movement. "Demonstrate" indicates the ability to apply the appropriate aids and perform the skill. The registered instructor must be able to perform those skills which are criteria to be taught to students.

Please indicate in the space provided the course name/code where criteria will be incorporated.

RE. EQUINE MANAGEMENT

RE.1.0 PATH Intl. Standards

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|-------|--------|---|
| _____ | RE.1.1 | Know and implement PATH Intl. Standards and their interpretation for horse care, maintenance, and usage |
| _____ | RE.1.2 | Know and implement PATH Intl. Standards and their interpretation regarding the use of safety equipment and adaptive equipment |

RE .2.0 Breeds/ Colors/ Markings/ Parts of the Horse

- | | | |
|-------|--------|---|
| _____ | RE.2.1 | Identify a horse by age, color and markings, breed characteristics, height and weight |
| _____ | RE.2.2 | Know the parts of the horse |

RE.3.0 Horse Senses and Behavior

- | | | |
|-------|--------|--|
| _____ | RE.3.1 | Know the characteristics of the senses of the horse |
| _____ | RE.3.2 | Know the characteristics of horse behavior |
| _____ | RE.3.3 | Know how the senses of the horse and horse behavior affect the safety of the riding setting. |
| _____ | RE.3.4 | Identify stable vices including cribbing, weaving, biting and kicking, wood chewing |

RE.4.0 Feeds and Feeding

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|-------|--------|--|
| _____ | RE.4.1 | Know feed requirements of the horse including: hay, salt and minerals, grain, feeding intervals, water |
| _____ | RE.4.2 | Recognize signs of poor quality feed |



RE.5.0 Stable Management

- _____ RE.5.1 Identify appropriate protection for horses including: fly masks and bonnets, shelter, fly repellents
- _____ RE.5.2 Know horse manure handling methods for sanitary conditions of stall and turn out areas
- _____ RE.5.3 Identify bedding materials
- _____ RE.5.4 Identify potential stall hazards

RE.6.0 Health and Sickness

- _____ RE.6.1 Know and recognize the signs of:
behavior change rabies heat stroke
colic ringworm stress
dental problems good health thrush
infectious diseases laminitis weight loss
- _____ RE.6.2 Know and recognize when a horse is unsound
- _____ RE.6.3 Identify normal ranges and how to take TPR: (temperature, pulse, respiration)
- _____ RE.6.4 Describe deworming, vaccination, hoof and teeth care programs
- _____ RE.6.5 Know first aid treatment for wounds

RE.7.0 Grooming

- _____ RE.7.1 Identify and explain the use of grooming tools including:
curry comb mane or tail comb
hard brush or dandy shedding blade
soft brush or body sponges
hoof pick sweat scrapper
- _____ RE.7.2 Know how to give a horse a bath
- _____ RE.7.3 Know how to cool down a horse following a work session
- _____ RE.7.4 Know how to clip a horse for maintenance including:
bridle path, fetlock, muzzle

RE.8.0 Tack and Tacking

- _____ RE.8.1 Identify and know the purpose, use, and function of:
bits: snaffle and curb adaptive equipment
bitless bridles breast plates and collars
bridles safety stirrups
saddles: english and western safety helmets
saddle pads surcingles
bareback pads
- _____ RE.8.2 Know the parts of english and western saddles and bridles
- _____ RE.8.3 Know how to tack a horse
- _____ RE.8.4 Select and evaluate equipment needs for riders and horses including:
type of saddle and bridle
how saddle affects rider position
how bridle and saddle affect horse



- _____ RE.8.5 adaptive equipment
- _____ RE.8.5 Know how to fit tack to horses and riders
- _____ RE.8.6 Know how to educate team, including riders and volunteers, in the use of the equipment
- _____ RE.8.7 Know and demonstrate tack cleaning, care, and maintenance

RE.9.0. Unsoundness and Blemishes / Form to Function

- _____ RE.9.1 Recognize the difference between a blemish and an unsoundness
- _____ RE.9.2 Identify and describe the foot falls and beats of the:
walk trot or jog canter or lope

RE.10.0 Selection and Training

- _____ RE.10.1 Explain the characteristics of a therapy horse
- _____ RE.10.2 Know how to train a horse to accept:
leaders and side walkers ambulation aids
mounting ramps and blocks game equipment
mounting procedures
- _____ RE.10.3 Recognize the need for a conditioning and maintenance program for therapeutic riding horses including:
longeing schooling record keeping

RH. HORSEMANSHIP

RH.1.0 Horsemanship Preparation and Safety

- _____ RH.1.1 Know and demonstrate the following:
haltering and leading tying and safety knot
grooming and tacking proper riding attire

RH.2.0 Mounting and Dismounting

- _____ RH.2.1 Know and demonstrate:
mounting and dismounting from ground or mounting block/ ramp
how to assist a rider during mounting and dismounting
an equipment check prior to mounting
stirrup adjustment prior to mounting

RH.3.0 Position

- _____ RH.3.1 Know and demonstrate a secure seat and correct alignment at all gaits
- _____ RH.3.2 Know and demonstrate correct position, posture and alignment at the:
walk- free walk and working walk
trot (sitting) or jog
trot- posting
canter or lope
two point at the walk and trot or jog
walk and sitting trot or jog without stirrups
reinback
- _____ RH.3.3 Know and demonstrate shortening and lengthening reins



RH.4.0 Gaits

- _____ RH.4.1 Know and demonstrate:
walk- free walk and working walk
canter or lope on correct lead
trot or jog- sitting
reinback
trot- posting on correct diagonal
change of diagonals at the trot
- _____ RH.4.2 Know and demonstrate light contact for all gaits
- _____ RH.4.3 Know and demonstrate straightness of the horse during all gaits
- _____ RH.4.4 Know and demonstrate control of the horse at all gaits
- _____ RH.4.5 Know and demonstrate the following transitions:
walk to trot/jog
canter/lope to walk
walk or trot/jog to canter/lope
walk to halt
trot/jog to walk
- _____ RH.4.6 Know how to warm-up a horse prior to a work session

RH.5.0 Aids

- _____ RH5.1 Know and demonstrate the following natural aids:
hands seat
legs voice
- _____ RH.5.2 Identify and know the purpose of spurs
- _____ RH.5.3 Know and demonstrate appropriate use of the following artificial aid: crop
- _____ RH.5.4 Know and demonstrate the following rein aids:
leading / opening neck rein direct rein
- _____ RH.5.5 Know and demonstrate the following leg aids:
both legs at the same time leg at the girth
alternating leg aids leg behind the girth

RH.6.0 Movements

- _____ RH.6.1 Know turn on the forehand
- _____ RH.6.2 Know and demonstrate bending a horse through corners and on circles
- _____ RH.6.3 Know and demonstrate half halt or check

RH.7.0 Ring Figures

- _____ RH.7.1 Know and demonstrate the following ring figures:
change of rein half circles
circles serpentine figure eight



RH.8.0 Exercises and Games

- _____ RH.8.1 Know and demonstrate mounted rider exercises at the walk and trot or jog
- _____ RH.8.2 Know and demonstrate riding without stirrups at the walk and sitting trot or jog
- _____ RH.8.3 Know and demonstrate ground poles at walk, trot or jog, and two point
- _____ RH.8.4 Know and demonstrate design and set up of obstacle course
- _____ RH.8.5 Know and demonstrate proper spacing of ground poles
- _____ RH.8.6 Know how to longe a horse

RI. INSTRUCTION

RI.1.0 Horsemanship Preparation and Safety

- _____ RI.1.1 Instruct the following:
 - grooming and tacking tying and safety knot
 - haltering and leading proper riding attire
 - proper spacing when leading or riding in a group
 - warming up a horse appropriately
- _____ RI.1.2 Orient student to facility, stable rules, and safety rules
- _____ RI.1.3 Select horse for individual riders according to:
 - behavior movement quality temperament
 - height size
- _____ RI.1.4 Instruct a group lesson of two or more riders
- _____ RI.1.5 Know and implement PATH Intl. Standards and their interpretation regarding lesson area

RI.2.0 Mounts and Dismounts

- _____ RI.2.1 Instruct the following:
 - mounting and dismounting from ground or mounting block
 - how to assist a rider during mounting and dismounting
 - equipment check prior to mounting
 - stirrup adjustment prior to mounting
 - independent, partially assisted, fully assisted mounts from the ground, block and ramp

RI.3.0 Position

- _____ RI.3.1 Instruct correct position at the:
 - halt canter or lope
 - walk- free and working walk two point at walk and trot
 - trot (sitting) or jog rein-back
 - trot- posting
- _____ RI.3.2 Instruct lengthening and shortening of reins



RT. TEACHING METHODOLOGY

RT.1.0 PATH Intl. Standards and Information

_____ RT.1.1	Know and implement PATH Intl. Standards and their interpretations regarding student forms
_____ RT.1.2	Know PATH Intl. services available to the instructor
_____ RT.1.3	Locate information about PATH Intl. Standards and Accreditation process
_____ RT.1.4	Know PATH Intl. Instructor Certification program
_____ RT.1.5	Know and practice emergency procedures
_____ RT.1.6	Know the location of the phone and emergency numbers

RT.2.0 Record Keeping

_____ RT.2.1	Verify that the student forms are complete and updated for students that the instructor teaches
_____ RT.2.2	Interpret student forms and apply the information to the riding setting
_____ RT.2.3	Write and maintain progress notes on riders
_____ RT.2.4	Complete incident report as needed
_____ RT.2.5	Comply with confidentiality requirements regarding students

RT.3.0 Lesson Plans

_____ RT.3.1	Assess rider skills and determine goals and objectives for each individual rider
_____ RT.3.2	Develop a lesson plan to achieve the goals and objectives
_____ RT.3.3	Choose activities and skills suitable for the objective of the lesson

RT.4.0 Teaching

_____ RT.4.1	Know and demonstrate teaching skills applicable to the registered instructor level, to include: teaching a riding skill safe and effective mounting and dismounting procedures flexibility and adaptability in pursuit of stated teaching objectives teaching to level of students emotional learning, physical and cognitive ability fairness and consistent in applying standards of behavior shows genuine interest in each student progress towards independence effective use of volunteers appropriate games and exercises appropriate praise adapts and corrects equipment provide whats, hows, whys flexibility of teaching techniques posture corrections progression of equitation skills rapport teaching at individual rider's level teaching environment giving clear and concise instructions control of class
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- _____ RT.4.2 ring presence
safe spacing and procedures
Possess instructor attributes, to include:
common sense professional
ethical punctual
organized respect for riders and horses
patience self confidence
positive attitude team player
knowledge of subject at instructor skill level
ability to self-reflect independently
- _____ RT.4.3 Meet annual continuing education requirements for the registered instructor (20 hours, current CPR and first aid, maintain PATH Intl. Membership)

RT.5.0 Methods

- _____ RT.5.1 Know that riders learn in different ways
- _____ RT.5.2 Use simple behavior management techniques to maintain class control
- _____ RT.5.3 Work with instructional team (instructors, therapists, volunteers, students, families and care providers) including:
develop rapport
provide direction to leader and side walkers during lesson
assign volunteers to riders
provide feedback to team members
reward team members
- _____ RT.5.4 Identify dysfunctional behavior

RD. DISABILITIES

RD.1.0 Human Anatomy

- _____ RD.1.1 Identify parts of the human skeleton including:
clavicle humerus tibia
cranium pelvis ulna
femur radius vertebrae
fibula scapula
- _____ RD.1.2 Know the following movement terminology:
abduction extension rotation
adduction flexion

RD.2.0 Disabilities

- _____ RD.2.1 Know precautions and contraindications to therapeutic riding
- _____ RD.2.2 Know definition, causes, characteristics and teaching management for rider's disabilities that the instructor teaches
- _____ RD.2.3 Locate information pertaining to all disabilities
- _____ RD.2.4 Self-evaluate instructional capabilities, facility environment, horse and



	personnel to determine riders that can be accepted as students
_____ RD.2.5	Know the benefits of therapeutic riding
_____ RD.2.6	Know the realms of therapeutic riding
_____ RD.2.7	Know and demonstrate handling techniques for mounting, dismounting, postural alignment
_____ RD.2.8	Know and demonstrate good body mechanics during mounting and dismounting.

The following is a list of requirements for students to be eligible for PATH Intl. Registered Level Certification.

Phase One:

- Current PATH Intl. Individual Membership
- Minimum of 18 years of age
- Current First Aid/CPR cards (on-line not accepted)
- Completed PATH Intl. Equine Management Skills Checklist
- CAT and Self Study course and exam
- Documentation of 25 teaching hours

PATH Intl. CAT (Center Accreditation Training) Course and Exam: This is an on-line course designed to familiarize the candidate with the *PATH Intl. Standards for Certification and Accreditation*. Password provided by the PATH Intl. office. The open book exam tests the candidate on the content of the PATH Intl. CAT course, with emphasis on components related to instructor certification.

PATH Intl. Instructor Self-Study Course and Open Book Exam: This is an interactive on-line course designed to help the candidate assess individual strengths and weaknesses. Password provided by the PATH Intl. office. The open book exam will follow this course and test the candidate on the information covered in the course.

Equine Management Skills Checklist: You may begin completing this list at any point. The completed form should be included in your phase one packet in order to have your IT letter is issued.

Documentation of Teaching Hours: These hours of teaching experience need to be acquired while under the guidance or direct supervision of a PATH Intl. Certified Instructor (mentor). Hours without a PATH Intl. mentor's guidance will not be accepted. You can only count hours taught to a group of students (2 or more). Recorded hours must only be actual mounted teaching hours. You can begin counting hours at any time; they cannot be more than 2 years old at the time you attend your certification testing.



The following is a list of requirements needed after completing phase one and before attending the PATH Intl. Higher Education certification event.

Phase Two:

- PATH Intl. Instructor in Training letter (IT)
- Instructor resume
- Professional and personal reference
- PATH Intl. Liability Release
- Center's Confidentiality and Liability Form(s)
- Essay questions

On-Site Certification Components Summary:

Candidates who participate in the on-site certification will be evaluated by two PATH Intl. Certification Evaluators on two components:

1. Riding demonstration (see riding pattern on page 12)
2. Teaching riders with disabilities
 - a. At the completion of the certification, candidates will be notified of their results by the evaluators. Candidates will receive a Registered Instructor Summary Sheet and Comment Sheet at the conclusion of the certification. These documents are provided as proof of successful or unsuccessful completion of the certification components.
 - b. The results will then be sent to the PATH Intl. office to be processed. Formal notification of the results will be sent to the candidate by the PATH Intl. office via US Mail.

Please note: Candidate certification results will not be official until you receive these formal documents from the PATH Intl. office.

1. Candidates who pass both components:

Candidates will receive formal notification from the PATH Intl. office of your results in the form of a congratulatory letter and an instructor certificate. Annual compliance requirements will be detailed in the letter which must be adhered to in order to maintain your Instructor status. Compliance must be sent to the PATH Intl. office annually on your original membership joined date, not your certification date.

2. Candidates who fail one or both components:

Candidates will receive an official letter from the PATH Intl. office, via certified mail, with reference to resubmission options for failed component. The resubmission process is different for those candidates who fail both components. The failed component(s) must be successfully completed in order for candidate to become certified.

For complete details please review the certification booklet on the PATH Intl. website at www.pathintl.org/resources-education/certifications

PATH INTL. HIGHER EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP REGISTERED LEVEL RIDING DEMONSTRATION

In order to successfully pass this segment, all candidates must wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet.

Candidates will be required to demonstrate their own riding ability by riding the following pattern.

- Warm-up
- Ride at a walk, trot (jog), and canter (lope) both directions of the arena
- Change the rein through the diagonal
- Circle
- Back
- Halt

After a brief warm-up, execute the following pattern to demonstrate you're riding skills:

