

PATH International

Standards as They Apply to Centers

The association's members have focused on the establishment of industry guidelines for the practice and teaching of EAAT, to ensure that center members maintain the safest, most ethical and most effective programs possible for the thousands of people participating in EAAT.

All PATH Intl. Center Members are required to operate in compliance with applicable standards. PATH Intl. Center Members may choose to become premier accredited. This voluntary process recognizes PATH Intl. Centers that have met established industry standards. The accreditation process is a peer review system in which trained volunteers visit and review centers in accordance with PATH Intl. standards. A center that meets the accreditation requirements based on all applicable standards becomes a Premier Accredited Center for a period of five years.

Premier Accredited Center Program

Purpose

The purpose of the PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center program is to provide a process of evaluation that recognizes that a center's program meets basic standards for health and safety and so promotes the well-being of all participants and equines.

Rationale and Philosophy

Accreditation is a voluntary membership-driven process. Accreditation focuses on education and evaluation of a center's program(s) using standards that are developed and approved by the membership and that are considered basic to EAAT. Standards are written in an objective manner to ensure consistent interpretation by centers and consistent evaluation by trained site visitors. The standards are reviewed regularly and updated by the PATH Intl. Program and Standards Oversight Committee and PATH Intl. Accreditation Subcommittee as needed.

PATH Intl. Standards identify practices considered basic to safe, quality EAAT. Standards, however, do not require that all programs look alike. The accreditation program serves a broad range of centers that may vary widely in type, history, size and budget.

As a benefit of accreditation, PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Centers may use the PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center logo. This logo, which is a registered trademark, represents to the public that the center has met the criteria for accreditation. It is not appropriate for centers to advertise or imply that accreditation has been applied for or earned until written notification has been received from PATH Intl.

For more information on the PATH Intl. accreditation program, visit the website at www.pathintl.org/path-intl-centers/path-intl-center-accreditation.



