2026 PATH Intl. Region Update
PATH
INTERNATIONAL

1

Initiatives
TRAC
PATH

2

3

State of the Industry

- 721 Total Center Members
- 3,507 Total Individual Members
- 5,614 PATH Intl. Certified Professionals
- 80,838 Total Number of Participants
- 17,776 Participants on Waiting Lists
- 8,101 Veterans served
- 7,639 Equines

- Center Budgets
- Center Demographics

4

Strategic Plan 2025 - 2028

- New Mission
- New Vision
- New Values
- New Plan

- pathintl.org/strategic-plans/

5

PATH Intl. Mission and Vision

Mission

PATH Intl. advances professional equine-assisted services by empowering its members, credentialed professionals, partners and the public through rigorously developed standards, credentials and education that recognize the power of the equine-human relationship.

Vision

PATH Intl. drives excellence through rigorously developed standards, credentials and education as a global leader promoting safe and effective equine-assisted services to transform lives.

PATH
INTERNATIONAL

6

PATH Intl. New Core Values

- Safety and Welfare
- Professionalism
- Inclusivity
- Collaboration
- Expertise
- Community-Focus

PATH INTERNATIONAL

7

PATH Intl. Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

Goal One

Define and Improve the Member and Credentialed Professional Benefit Value Propositions

Goal Two

Grow Customer Engagement Through Process Improvement

Goal Three

Elevate Awareness of the PATH Intl. Brand

Goal Four

Drive Organizational Sustainability and Evolution

Goal Five

Continue to Integrate DEI in Organizational Operations

PATH INTERNATIONAL

8

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Goals update

- **Presentations** at conferences
- **Affinity space** at international conference
- DEI **scholarships**
- DEI **book club**
- Collection of **demographic data**

9

PATH Intl. Innovation Circles

- First year of courses – was a great success.
- Next series of courses – Fundraising Essentials
- For information visit the webpage https://pathintl.org/innovation-circles or email innovationcircles@pathintl.org

Thanks to grants from the McGraw and Hoffman Foundations, significant scholarships are available. Please don't let finances stop you from applying!

10

	Fundraising Essentials	Board Development	Leading Business Practices
Region 1:	2	2	2
Region 2:	6	8	7
Region 3:	5	0	5
Region 4:	6	2	4
Region 5:	5	3	2
Region 6:	3	2	3
Region 7:	3	2	3
Region 8:	6	5	4
Region 9:	4	7	3
Region 10:	2	8	4
Region 11:	8	9	8
Total # Participants:	**50**	**48**	**45**

Innovation Circles Course Participation

PATH INTERNATIONAL

11

12

National Philanthropic Trust Access Grants for credentialing, training leading to credentialing & financial aid

Up to $6,000
for Premier Accredited Centers

Up to $3,500
for Center Members

13

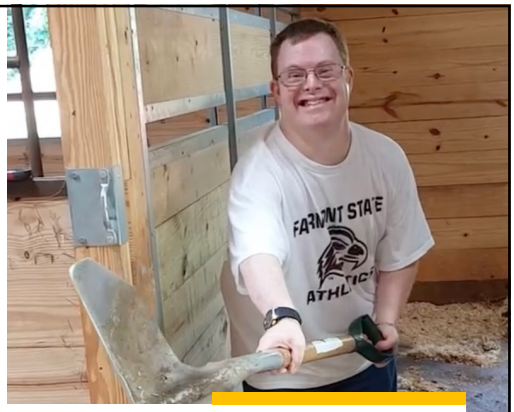
Bob & Toni Mallet Access Grants for Credentialing, training leading to credentialing & participant financial aid in PA, OH, WV, MD, NJ

Two-year grants up to $20,000
for Premier Accredited Centers

Two-year grants up to $10,000
for Center Members

14

- Medicaid Waiver Program
- Assessment Protocol/Temple Grandin Equine Center Initiative



Project Priorities

15

- **Discount Health insurance** through USA Sports Benefits with plans for both individual members at all levels and member centers plus other new offerings
  - (800) 439-5222
  - Support@USASportsbenefits.com
  - www.usasportsbenefits.com/path-international/
- **PATH Intl. Perks program** now hosted by BenefitHub.

Membership Update

16

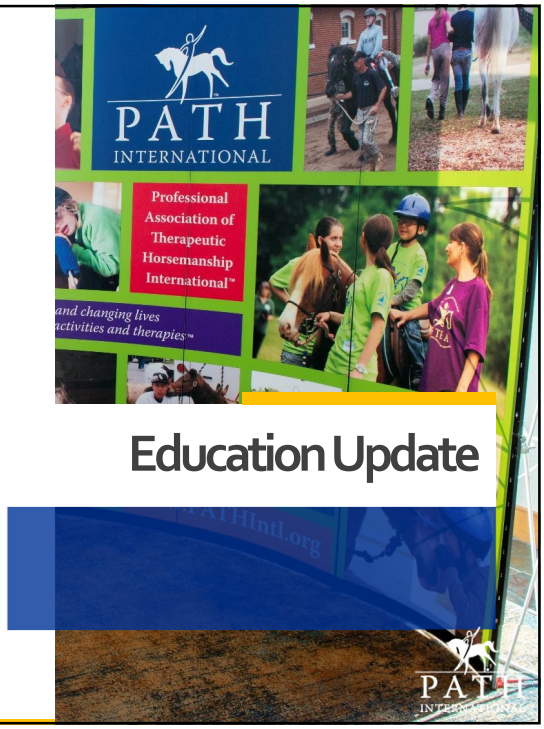
Upcoming **2026 Fundamentals of EAL** courses

- April – registration open NOW
- May – registration open NOW
- June – registration to open in April
- July – registration to open in May
- August – registration to open in June

Upcoming **2026 Online Mentor Training** courses

- May – registration open NOW
- July – registration to open in May
- October – registration to open in August

Development of a **virtual course** that compliments the **PATH Intl. CTRI® Skills Clinic** continues!



17

2026 Spring Break to Educate Disability Series!

- Earn 6 DE CEU credits!
- Pricing
  - Member - $200
  - Non-Member - $250
- Bundle with the Mentor Seminar Series in June to save $40!
  - The Mentor Seminar Series will award attendees with 3 CE CEU credits!
  - Member - $250
  - Non-Member - $330

Contact the team at education@pathintl.org for questions or more information!

18

NEW – PATH Intl. CTRI Skills Clinic

Upcoming **2026 PATH Intl. CTRI Skills Clinics**

- March 25-28, 2026
  - Heaven's Gait Ranch
    Cedar Grove, WI
- June 1-4, 2026
  - Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center Longmont, CO
- August 22-25, 2026
  - Renew Therapeutic Riding Center Holland, MI
- September 18-21, 2026
  - Naples Therapeutic Riding Center Naples, FL
- October 25-28, 2026
  - Manes and Motions Therapeutic Riding Center
    Middletown, CT

NEW!

Contact the team at educationevents@pathintl.org for questions!

PATH INTERNATIONAL

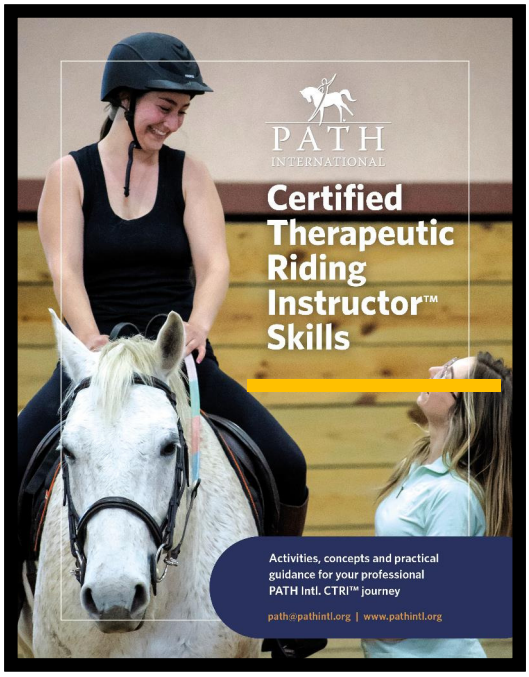
19

$10 OFF Region Conference Attendee Discount!

PATH Intl. CTRI Skills Book

- Activities
- Concepts
- The digital version is interactive!
- Practical guidance for any stage of the professional journey of a PATH Intl. CTRI®

DISCOUNT CODE for digital version: ConfSpecial



20

Leadership Adventures
PVEI
Polyvagal Equine Institute
Equine International
Research • Education • Outreach
EDUCATION PARTNER
PATH INTERNATIONAL
THE HERD INSTITUTE
LEARNING PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
Partnering for Purpose
VERITAS
EQUINE ASSISTED LEARNING INSTITUTE
THE EQUINE INSTITUTE
CONTINUING & PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
London College of Animal Osteopathy
Education Partners
PATH INTERNATIONAL

21

Institute for Credentialing Excellence
PROUD MEMBER
Credentialing
PATH INTERNATIONAL

22

PATH Intl. Credentials and Certificates

Certifications

- Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor (CTRI)
- Advanced Therapeutic Riding Instructor (ATRI)
- Master Therapeutic Riding Instructor (MTRI)
- Equine Specialist in Mental Health and Learning (ESMHL)
- Driving Level 1 and 2
- Interactive Vaulting

Microcredentials

- EAL Facilitator in Education (EALF-Ed)
- EAL Facilitator in Personal Development (EALF-PD)
- EAL Facilitator in Organizations (EALF-O)
- Mounted EAL Facilitator (EALF-M)

Certificates

- Equine-assisted Learning
  - Fundamentals of EAL course completion and 60+ hours of facilitation post course

PATH INTERNATIONAL

23

Exciting News!

PATH Intl. Certifications Now Eligible for GI Bill funding/reimbursement!

As of March 1, 2026, the following certification expenses are approved as eligible for reimbursement through the GI Bill®:

CTRI® certification:

- Certification exam: up to $675

ESMHL certification:

- PATH Intl. Standards exam: up to $20
- Online ESMHL exam: up to $50

PATH INTERNATIONAL

24

PATH Intl. CTRI® Certification Resources

Applicant Resources

On the CTRI Webpage

- Candidate Handbook
  Provides links to request booklets in "Resources and Insights" section of the website for:
  - Supervision Allowances (long distance or virtual supervision of teaching hours, for example)
  - Reasonable Accommodations
- Part III Video Preparation and Self-Reflection Activity
- Part III Video Assessment

Supervising Instructor/Mentor Resources

In "Resources and Insights" section of the website

- "Be a Star Supervising Instructor" pre-recorded webinar
- The Roles of Mentors and Supervising Instructors
- Supervising Instructor Qualifications Checklist
- CTRI Mentor Education Series in June 2026
  - 4-week series of 60-minute presentations with follow-up Q&As
  - Will be recorded and available for purchase after June

25

PATH Intl. CTRI® Related Surveys

Job Task Analysis Survey

- Part of the broader job task analysis (JTA) process
- Designed to re-validate the tasks associated with the role of a Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor.
- Respondents are asked to review tasks identified by subject matter experts as being essential for CTRIs to perform and rate each in terms of its frequency and importance to the job.
- The survey consists of 7 pages and will take approximately 25 minutes to complete.

CTRI Credential ROI and Value Survey

- Current perceived value and ROI of CTRI certification

CTRI Satisfaction Survey for EDs/PDs

- How demonstrated knowledge, skills and abilities of current CTRIs align with center/programs needs for ENTRY-LEVEL TR instructors

26

PATH Intl. Advanced TRI Certification Updates

Workshop

- Piloted Spring of 2025
- Launched officially Fall 2025
- 3 ½ day in-person workshop
- All current candidates required to attend a workshop – we no longer offer additional pathways to certification IE Advanced Prep Courses or additional education options
- Candidates are able to register for this once their prerequisites are completed through their PATH Intl. Member Portal

Virtual Lungeing Prerequisite

- Lungeing component has been removed from the onsite testing and will become a virtual prerequisite
- Candidates will submit this prior to attending their onsite certification testing – more details coming in the newest candidate handbook

PATH INTERNATIONAL

27

PATH Intl. ESMHL Updates

Workshop and Skills Test Changes:

- The ESMHL workshop is now 3 days long and no longer includes the in-person Horsemanship Skills Test
- The Horsemanship Skills Test has now been moved to a video submission that will be included with a candidate's portfolio submission after they have attended their workshop
- $125 submission fee

PATH INTERNATIONAL

28

Legislation Update
as of March 8, 2026

Federal Level

- Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act
  - Now fully implemented
  - 529 Plans can now be used to cover costs associated with earning and maintaining PATH Intl. CTRI® certification.
- REBUILD Skills Act
  - On hold

State Level

- Commercial cheating bans gaining traction
- Bills that infringe on credentialing organizations' right to make eligibility and competency determinations
  - Clean Slate
  - Returning Citizens
  - Alternative Pathways

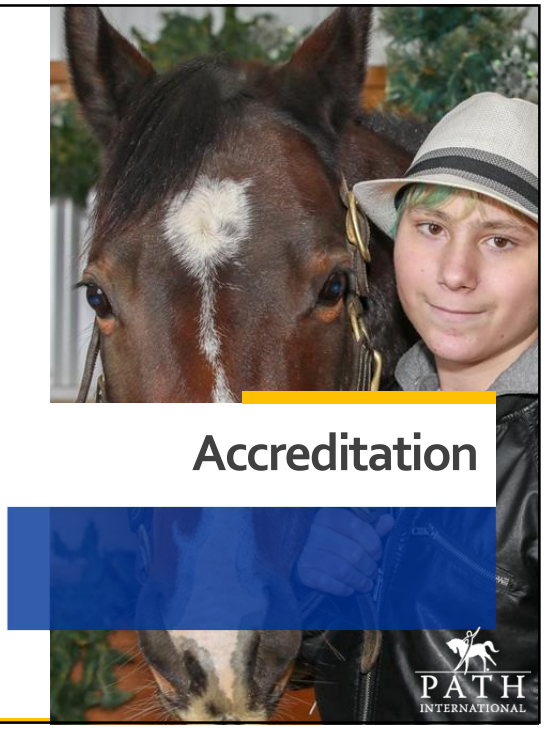
PCC | PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION COALITION

Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition

29

Accreditation site visit backlog update

Hybrid site visitor training is still in development.



30

- Updated PATH Intl. Standards for Certification and Accreditation Manual
- Field Test Standards vote

31

Tens of Millions Likes, Views and Website Traffic annually as the public learns about EAS and PATH Intl.

Google Ad Grants

32

Additional Mass Consumer Awareness Tactics

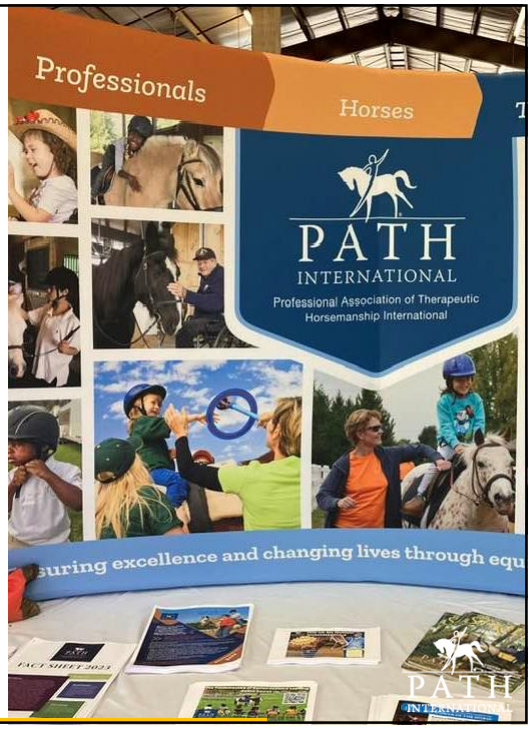
- Advertising — print and digital
- Earned Media-press releases
- Social Media
- Sponsors
- Equine Affaire and other tradeshows
- Website

Google Ad Grants

33

Panels, Presentations, Interviews, Connections

- The HERD Institute
- American Hippotherapy Association
- Horses and Humans Research Foundation
- Arabian Horse Association
- IAHAIO
- American Horse Council
- Equine-assisted Learning Summit
- Equine Affaire



34

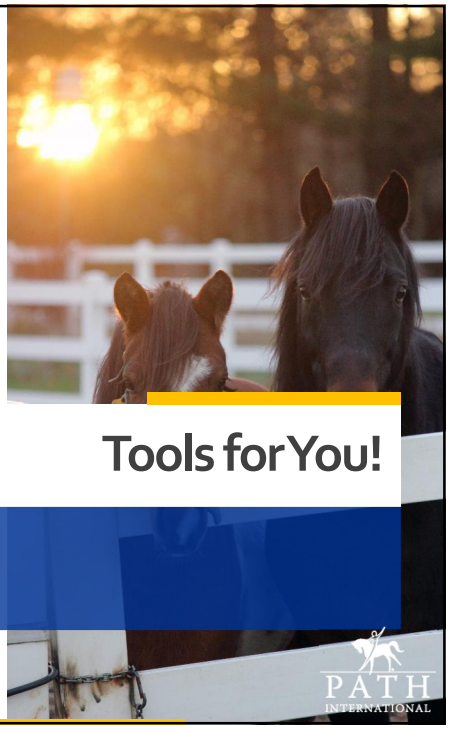
Customizable social media, advertising and email templates with stacks of valuable resources!

Members-Only Volunteer Recruitment And Retention Toolkit

pathintl.org/volunteer-resources-for-centers/

How to Start a Career in EAS, Trade Show and Job Fair Materials

pathintl.org/certification/start-your-career-in-eas/



35

Thank you PATH Intl. Sponsors!

zoetis

PURINA

MARKEL

COMMON TERI SERVICES

Adequan® i.m. (POLYSULFATED GLYCOSAMINOGLYCAN)

KILLIAN Insurance Agency

Chariot Innovations

CollinsEdge CONSULTING

AQHA AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

Breyer

EQUINE NETWORK

PATH INTERNATIONAL

36

THANK YOU!

PATH INTERNATIONAL

37