

Student Guidelines

1. The student must be **FOUR** years of age and have a minimum sitting balance and head control of a 6 month-old. Students who have had a Grand Mal seizure within the last year may not be eligible for horseback riding.
2. Our weight limit is **180** pounds.
3. All students with Down syndrome **MUST** have an **X-RAY** for Atlantoaxial Dislocation Condition (ADC). The results must be noted on the Physician's Referral Form, and on the Physical Therapy Assessment Form, if being seen by a therapist. We are not permitted to ride anyone with ADC.
4. **ALL FORMS MUST BE FILLED OUT, SIGNED** and returned to us by _____ before the student may ride. No student will be permitted to ride without these forms.
5. When riding, the student must be in long pants and a sturdy shoe, preferably with heels. **SHORTS AND SANDALS ARE NOT PERMITTED** due to the possibility of pressure sores, pinched legs or foot injuries. Approved hard hats are required and provided. Please remember to wear hair styles that are conducive to a snug-fitting hard hat. Avoid dangling earrings and other jewelry.
6. Please observe all barn rules while at the farm. All family and visitors should stay inside the bleacher area of the barn unless specifically invited to go to another part of the building.
7. Our volunteers give of their time and talent so that you are able to ride. **PLEASE** let us know **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** if you will be unable to attend class so that we can schedule our volunteers accordingly. The numbers to call are:

Bev: 419-999-4801
Farm: 419-657-6900
Pam: 419-648-6746
Jeannette: 419222-2797

Office: 419-657-2700
Mickki: 419-657-2300
Sarah: 419-369-4989

It is very rare for us to cancel class but you will be notified as soon as possible should it be necessary. Please listen to your local radio stations in case of very bad weather.

8. If a student has **THREE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES** in a session, they will be **EXCUSED FROM THE PROGRAM**. We have a waiting list of students who would like to ride.
9. If we determine that this type of riding therapy is not suitable for a student because of safety to the student, volunteer, instructor, horse, or for any other reason, we reserve the right to deny riding to that student.
10. Due to full scheduling and more than reasonable fees, which are discounted over 80 percent of our cost, there will be no make up classes or reimbursements, except in unusual circumstances. "Riderships" can be applied for.

Thank You For Your Cooperation,

The Equestrian Therapy Program Staff