



THERAPEUTIC RIDING PROGRAM INFORMATION

Riding Schedule

The annual riding schedule consists of five 9-week sessions with a one week break between each session. Lessons are held every day but Mondays, with sessions beginning on a Sunday and ending on a Saturday, except where otherwise noted. A calendar is provided annually showing the sessions and breaks, though it is subject to change. You will be scheduled for the same time slot for the next session unless other arrangements are made with the program manager.

Lesson Changes and Absences

Once your lesson day and time are selected we will be prepared for you each week at your scheduled day and time. Lessons generally last between 30-40 minutes, dependent on a variety of factors. We will notify you of any schedule changes. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will not be able to ride.

If you cannot attend a lesson please contact the Therapeutic Riding Office as far in advance as possible, so that we adjust volunteer schedules accordingly. The program runs at full capacity, therefore, we are not able to provide make up lessons. **No refunds** or credits will be applied for any missed lessons.

We do not cancel lessons for inclement weather. We will schedule a barn lesson where the student will learn important horsemanship skills. Therefore, there are no refunds or make-ups for canceling on such days.

Riding Fees

The average cost to the program to provide a lesson is over \$150. Through the generosity of donations and grants, we are able to offer lessons at a greatly subsidized rate. Nine week session fees are \$360.00 for both group and private lessons. The initial evaluation fee to assess appropriateness in the program is \$60.00. Program fees are not tax deductible. Riding lesson fees are due at the beginning of each session. If the session is already in progress, a prorated amount is expected at the time of the evaluation. Fees must be paid by the end of the second week of a session or the client will not be able to ride until paid in full. Scholarships applications are available once a year. Please speak with the Program Manager for more information

Restrictions

Riders must be at least 4 years or older. An equine appropriate for the rider's height, weight, and physical challenges must also be available. The Program Manager along with the rider's physician will determine if therapeutic riding at this facility is a safe and appropriate activity. A Physical or Occupational Therapist may be used during the initial evaluation if possible contraindications are present.

Apparel

All students must wear an ASTM helmet. Students are highly encouraged to purchase their own ASTM/SEI helmets, however in some circumstances the Center may be able to provide one. Sneakers are acceptable. However, a boot with firm toes, a hard sole and a ¼ inch heel are recommended, and required for riders who trot independently on a regular basis (as determined by the instructor). Regardless of level of independence, all footwear must fully enclose the toes and heel. Socks are highly recommended. Shoes that may be deemed unsafe include Crocs, sandals, or ballet-type shoes. This list is NOT all-inclusive. Open toed, open heeled shoes are not allowed anywhere around the horses, **by any persons**. It is strongly recommended that riders wear long pants to protect against rubbing on the saddle.