



Dear Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor (CTRI) candidate,

Thank you for considering doing your Instructor in Training (IT) at Eagle Mount Bozeman.

Enclosed is information on becoming a CTRI. These materials outline the process mapped out by PATH, International (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship) as well as the application requirements of Eagle Mount's Adaptive Horsemanship IT Program. Please note the costs are simply estimates but are included to give you an idea of not only the time commitment but also the financial commitment you must be prepared to make to reach your goal.

Candidates are expected to navigate much of the information on their own since it is nearly impossible to provide this under the mentoring portion of your training. We will help you do so but it is ultimately your responsibility to study and keep up with the other candidates in your class. How to best organize your documents will be discussed during the first few weeks of the course.

The last page is Eagle Mount's PATH Instructor-in-Training Agreement that you should review and sign. The following document defines the responsibilities of both Eagle Mount and the IT. Eagle Mount would like to assure candidates that they are insured under our liability insurance as a volunteer and they will have access to train under all instructors so they can have a wide exposure to many different teaching styles and techniques. You will also have the opportunity to instruct riders with different types of disabilities.

We are delighted to have you as part of the Eagle Mount Adaptive Horsemanship team and want to make sure that we are giving you the best experience possible.

Sincerely,

Claire Brunner, Director
Adaptive Horsemanship Program
406-586-1781 – cbrunner@eaglemount.org

1. Eagle Mount Application Packet:
 - Eagle Mount Volunteer Application – www.eaglemount.org (includes: Emergency Medical Contact Information and Release of Liability)
 - Background check - www.eaglemount.org (\$6.95)
 - Application Statement reviewing:
 - Riding/Teaching History
 - Experience working with people with disabilities
 - Why Equine Assisted Services?
 - Why Eagle Mount?
2. Interview –
 - a. hours of paid or volunteer time handling equines under the supervision of a PATH Certified Professional or 10 years of comparable experience (see checklist).
 - b. Review Equine Management & Handling Skills Checklist
3. Acceptance or postpone training until skills can be brought up to par (i.e. take riding lessons for 3 to 6 months)

IT Program overview:

Upon acceptance candidates will be asked to provide Eagle Mount with evidence of:*

- Adult & Child CPR and First Aid (current certification proof required)
www.americanredcross \$35.00
- Email from PATH confirming purchase of Standards Course \$20.00
 Note: watch timing – have 60 days to complete once purchased)

*Mentor will assist IT in gathering this information

Time Commitment:

15 - 30 hours **Volunteer Hours:** Candidates will serve as side walkers and horse leaders in at least one session (4 to 6 weeks) prior to starting their “observation” hours. (no charge)

10 hours **Observation Hours:** Candidates are encouraged to observe as many classes as possible. They will be assigned 2 to 4 classes/week to provide instructor with support in arena set up, lesson plan development and implementation and to participate in post-lesson review. During this four week session they may be asked to provide an appropriate warm-up, game and/or cool-down that supports the objective of the lesson.

Once the mentor and candidate agree that they are ready to start teaching the candidate will start accruing their 25 hours of teaching mounted lessons.

25 hours **Teaching Hours**

10 hours **Classroom/Zoom Meetings:** The training program is curriculum based and follows the PATH, Intl. Instructor Education Guide. These trainings will entail 6 to 8 meetings/1 to 2 hours/week.

10 hours **Hands on In Barn** (ex. Adaptive Equipment, Horse Handling and Evaluation, Volunteer Management)

Optional Hours:

6 hours **Demonstration** of Riding Instruction & Communication of Riding Skills – video on site.

- Ride the pattern using horse you plan to use in video
- Work with demo rider – break it down into warm-up and pattern
- Test film - practice run
- Film until it's right
- PATH International Membership www.pathintl.org 70.00 individual
\$100.00 professional tier
- Purchase the CTRI Application \$150.00 professional tier
\$250 for individual or non-member
- Submit application & sign up for test when available after 90 days

| Description | Cost |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| First Aid and CPR – Adult & Child | \$35.00 |
| PATH Standards Course | \$20.00 or \$30.00 |
| PATH CTRI Application | \$150.00 or \$250.00 |
| Mentoring | \$1,800.00 (maximum due) |
| Total | \$2,005.00 or \$2,115.00 |

Time line:

1. Apply for Standards Exam
 2. Take Standards Exam within 60 days of receipt
 3. Within 1 year from taking exam submit application with video
 4. 90 days to receive confirmation of application approval
 5. Take Test
-

Suggested Reference Books:

- USPC Manuals – D & C Level; B & HA Levels
- Centered Riding – Sally Swift
- The Comprehensive Guide to EAAT – Dewkett, M.M., Brady, H.A., Hernandez, H.M.
- PATH CTRI Study Guide – electronic version to be emailed to candidates



PATH Instructor-in-Training Agreement

I, _____, have read the attached document and commit to working with the Eagle Mount Adaptive Horsemanship Staff to achieve my PATH CTRI as outlined.

Signature: _____ Date: _____