



TRAV INSTRUCTOR INITIATIVE GUIDELINES

PURPOSE:

- To help identify and fund experienced able-bodied instructors to become PATH- certified riding instructors in Virginia
- To increase the level of horsemanship and experience in the equine-assisted activities therapy industry

GOAL:

To identify and train three individuals to become PATH certified within one year. Go to <http://www.pathintl.org/resources-education/certifications> for more information on becoming a PATH certified instructor.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES:

TRAV will establish \$3,000 in funding for the first year of the instructor initiative. Each candidate can receive up to \$1,000 in reimbursable funds to become a PATH-certified instructor. If desired, up to \$200 of that \$1,000 will be paid to the PATH center mentoring the instructor through the process. The center must be a TRAV member center in good standing and have an official PATH mentor on staff.

REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible for funds, a candidate must:

- Be a TRAV individual or life member
- Be a PATH member
- Have a minimum of five years experience teaching group lessons to able-bodied riders. Preference will be given to those with more teaching experience
- Show an interest in being a part of the equine-assisted activities industry
- PASS the certification in order to receive funds. If a candidate fails part of the certification but passes it at a later time, the candidate can then be reimbursed for the certification once all parts have been passed
- Submit application to TRAV. Applications will be reviewed quarterly until all funding is committed
- If chosen, applicant will be notified and have **one year** from the date of notification **to become certified**. A TRAV representative will check in with chosen candidates quarterly to ensure they are on track to become certified within one year. If after six months a candidate shows they are not on track to become certified within one year, funding will be pulled from candidate and given to another applicant.

REIMBURSEMENT:

Once a candidate has become certified, copies of all receipts must be sent to TRAV within 30 days for reimbursement. Reimbursable receipts up to \$1,000 include:

- Workshop and certification fees
- Mentoring fees up to \$200
- Travel and lodging expenses for the workshop and certification