**Therapeutic Riding Instructor Training Program**

Hello and thank you for your interest in our Instructor Training Program!

This is Leah McCord Urbanski. I am a certified therapeutic riding instructor through PATH Intl. and am also a PATH Intl. Instructor Mentor. I own McCord Training and we provide riding lessons to those participants with and without special needs. I created this Instructor Training Program as a way to help educate horseback riding instructors and to help more instructors become PATH certified instructors (CTRI).

**The total cost of the program is $1000 but it will be broken down into monthly payments of $200.** This cost is only for McCord Training’s Instructor Training Program and doesn’t include any of the PATH CTRI application or test fees. Mentees are responsible for covering any fees they incur with PATH. **Application fee for McCord’s Instructor Training Program is $100** which will be applied to the total costs of the program if applicant is accepted. We are only taking a limited number of mentees as our time to train other instructors is limited. Please take note that this is a therapeutic riding instructor training program and not a horse training program. Applicants are required to already have basic horsemanship skills like being able to ride at a walk, trot, and lope. We can help you fine tune your skills but the basics must already be present as that takes years to develop. If the applicant needs more work on horsemanship, we will encourage you to take lessons and reapply at a later time.

What our program does is help mentees gain teaching experience and help them fulfill all the hours required by the applicant on the PATH CTRI application. On both PATH Intl’s application and in our Instructor Training Program, we require a total of **80 hours - 30 hours of equine handling, 25 volunteer hours, and 25 teaching hours.** The goal for mentees is that those 80 hours will take place over 5 months which is 4 hours a week. Those 4 hours a week is hands-on training only and mentees will be required to do the assigned readings and research on their own time.

Even though we will help you gain experience and get the hours (equine handling, volunteer, and teaching) needed on the PATH instructor application, you are required to fulfil the other requirements on your own. Also, we don’t guarantee you will pass the PATH CTRI exam and become a certified instructor. We are there as a tool to help you but it is a rigorous test that requires much preparation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Leah McCord Urbanski - Owner of McCord Training

PATH CTRI and PATH Intl. Instructor Mentor

406-672-7511 [mccordtraining@yahoo.com](mailto:mccordtraining@yahoo.com)

**Application for Therapeutic Riding**

**Instructor Training Program**

(Must be at least 18 years old to apply)

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is your preferred contact method?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Materials Needed to Complete Application:

1. Resume
2. Ground Work Pre-test
3. Under Saddle Pre-test
4. Riding Video that includes you riding at a walk, trot, and lope.
5. $100 Application Fee

Once all materials for the application are submitted then we will schedule an **in-person interview** to go over horse experience, previous therapeutic riding experience, ect.

Two weeks following the in-person interview, we will inform applicant of our decision. If an applicate is accepted into our program, then we require a signed contract before their training begins. The contract states the applicant agrees to the terms stated in the letter above, agrees to abide by barn and program rules, and states that a mentee can be dismissed for unprofessional behavior, animal mistreatment, or failure to participate.

**Groundwork Pre-test**

1. When haltering a horse, where should you be standing?
2. In front of the horse
3. On the left side
4. On the right side
5. Either on the right or left
6. When using the lead rope to ask the horse to stop you should:
7. Pull the lead rope towards you
8. Pull the lead rope towards the horse’s chest
9. Grab onto the halter and not use the lead rope
10. Ask the horse to whoa and hope he stops
11. How much distance should you keep between you and the horse in front of you while walking in a group setting with horses you do not know?
12. Spacing doesn’t matter
13. One horse length
14. 3-4 horse lengths
15. 5-8 horse lengths
16. How do you check for a sore back?
17. Run your fingers firmly down each side of his spine from withers to croup
18. Firmly poke with two fingers along each side of the spine
19. There is no way to check for a sore back
20. What is a sign that a horse is irritated?
21. Ears Forward
22. Ears Laid Back
23. Ears drooped to the side
24. What is a cinchy horse?
25. A horse that doesn’t like to be brushed.
26. A horse that doesn’t want to be caught.
27. a horse That gets irritated when you are by their cinch area
28. When tightening up the saddle?
29. Tighten it all at one
30. Leave it loose until you are ready to ride
31. Slowly tighten the girth/cinch in several steps
32. What are parts of the saddle?
33. Bridle, stirrups, cantle
34. Stirrups, pommel, cantle
35. Saddle horn, pommel, and bit
36. Latigo, stirrups, brow band
37. Which of the following Actions can lead to poor behavior?
38. Rubbing eyes/face on your body
39. Eating a treat from your hand
40. Allow them to eat grass while working
41. All of the above
42. What are the purposes of lunging a horse before getting on?

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1. Explain what is desensitizing and why it is so important.

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**Under Saddle Pre-test**

1. What natural aids?
   1. Hands, seat, voice, legs
   2. Weight, legs, reins, seat
   3. Spurs, voice, reins, seat
   4. Weight, legs, crop, reins
2. What is cadence?
   1. It is a piece of tack.
   2. It is when the horse speeds up.
   3. It is a consistent rhythm.
   4. There is no such thing.
3. How many beats does a jog have?
   1. One
   2. Two
   3. Three
   4. Four
4. What are the gaits of a horse going from slow to fast?
   1. Walk, jog, trot, gallop
   2. Walk, trot, lope, gallop
   3. Walk, canter, posting trot, gallop
   4. Walk, trot, jog, posting trot, gallop
5. What describes a rider having the correct posting diagonal at the trot?
   1. Rising and following with the horses leg that is to the inside of the arena.
   2. Rising and falling with the horse’s leg on the wall.
   3. Doesn’t matter which leg you rise and fall with.
6. What is the correct description of a left lead?
   1. Horse’s right front reaches out further than left front.
   2. Horse’s left front reaches out further than right front while right hind reaches out further than left hind.
   3. Horse’s left front reaches out further than right front while left hind reaches out further than right hind.
   4. What is a lead?
7. When loping around a corner to the left, what lead should you have?
   1. Left Lead
   2. Right Lead
   3. Can be any lead.
8. While riding you need your horse to move their body or rib cage to the left. How do you do that?
   1. Use left leg pressure at the cinch.
   2. Use right leg pressure at cinch.
   3. Use right rein against the neck.
   4. Use right leg pressure at the back cinch.
9. What does it mean to ride a horse in a frame?
   1. Having the horse ride with their forehand 90 degrees to the ground.
   2. Giving the horse plenty of rein.
   3. Having the horse put their head down.
   4. No such thing.
10. What is the purpose of a half-halt? How do you do a half-halt?

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1. What are the steps to ask for a right lead? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. You have a horse that is having trouble with a lead. What would you do to assist the horse with getting the desired lead? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_