



Equine-Assisted Services
PATH Int'l Premier Accredited Center

Financial Aid Information and Criteria

Riding Unlimited minimizes our tuition fees through grants, individual, and corporate donations. Additional financial aid is available to those who cannot afford our tuition, but our resources are very limited. In order to accommodate participants that need financial assistance, we ask that participants make a payment based on the income of the household. This payment may be divided throughout the session. **You are required to volunteer time with Riding Unlimited if you receive aid.** Financial assistance is an obligation on the part of the participant and his/her family. We expect the terms agreed to herein will be fulfilled.

Financial support will not be continued for those who have two (2) or more unexcused absences. If a participant does not show up for a scheduled lesson without any prior notification, financial aid will be immediately revoked. Missing two or more classes in a session could prevent any future financial aid.

The following criteria will be used as a basis for financial assistance considerations. For additional questions or comments, please contact director@ridingunlimited.org.

- A. The maximum amount of financial aid that will be awarded is 75% of tuition costs. Financial aid is awarded based on household income.
- B. Additional consideration is given for any mitigating factors which could impact the sum granted. These can include: five or more people in the family, more than one disabled family member, single parent family, or unusual medical needs. You will be asked to submit supporting documents such as monthly therapy billing statements and references.
- C. All assistance is granted by the decision of the RU Board of Directors. Once the board has made a decision, the participant will be notified in writing as soon as possible.
- D. All applications must include the first page of the most recent IRS income tax return and a copy of an SSI or other government assistance check (if applicable). If the participant is a minor, the return for the parent/legal guardian is required. Applications that do not contain the required financial information and registration forms will not be considered.
- E. **Financial assistance is awarded for only the current session and does not carry over from one session to another.** The full application, including financial documents, must be submitted annually. A renewal form must be submitted for any subsequent sessions within the year. Applications and renewal forms should be submitted no later than two

(2) weeks prior to the beginning of the session. No renewal will be considered if there is an outstanding balance on the participant's account or more than two (2) unexcused absences in the last session attended.

- F. The applicant will be required to submit a copy of the latest personal tax return filed with the IRS or SSI documentation on an annual basis.
- G. The participant is expected to attend classes regularly and provide notice of any absences at least 24 hours in advance. An unexcused absence is an absence with notice of less than three (3) hours prior to class. If a participant has two (2) or more unexcused absences, they will no longer be eligible for financial aid for the year. Participants receiving financial aid cannot have more than one (1) excused absence during a five-week session or more than two (2) excused absences during a ten-week session. Financial aid will not apply to unexcused missed classes. Payment of unexcused missed classes is the responsibility of the participant and his/her family. Payment must be made for unexcused missed classes before the participant can return. **If a participant does not show up for a scheduled lesson without any prior notification, financial aid will be immediately revoked and the participant will no longer be eligible for financial aid.**
- H. Those receiving aid must volunteer time at Riding Unlimited during the session in which the participant is receiving aid. The amount of volunteer hours is calculated by multiplying the amount of financial aid received by the number of hours spent in lessons. For example, if a participant receives 75% financial aid for a ten-week session, they are required to volunteer 7.5 hours (10 hours of lessons X 75% aid) during that session.
- I. No financial aid can be provided until the application is fully completed and all required supporting documents have been submitted.
- J. All applications received by Riding Unlimited will be held in the strictest of confidence.



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Financial Aid Full Application

This application is completed annually. A renewal form is required for subsequent sessions within the year. The resources for these scholarships are limited, but we try to provide financial assistance to those participants who cannot afford the fee. We request that any payments are made before the end of the session.

Participant Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

Session (include season and year): _____

Information Regarding Person Completing Application/Responsible for Payment:

Name: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please answer the following:

- How do you wish to volunteer? (check all that apply)
 - __ Weekly in class
 - __ Fundraising
 - __ Ranch work
 - __ Other (specify): _____
- Net Household Income (as reported on tax return): _____
- Where does the participant reside?
 - __ At Home with family __ Alone __ Other (check one)
 - If other, please describe:

- Total number of family members living in the household: _____
- Are any other family members disabled? __ Yes __ No (check one)
 - If yes, please provide details:

- Have you received financial aid from Riding Unlimited in the past?
 - Yes No (check one)
 - If yes, when? _____

- How many years have you received services from Riding Unlimited? _____

- Are there any unusual medical needs we should consider?

- Describe in detail any mitigating factors that should be taken into consideration (ex: 5+ people in the family, more than one disabled family member, single parent family, or unusual medical needs):

- I am requesting to receive the following amount to help with tuition (check one):
 - 25%
 - 50%
 - 75%

By submitting this information and signing below, I, _____ (please print first and last name) agree to all of the criteria outlined in this application; and I have read and understand the Riding Unlimited Financial Aid Information and Criteria. In addition, I have answered all questions to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Guardian Signature

Date

Enclose a copy of one or more of the following documents to support your application. Applications cannot be processed without supporting documents.

- The first page ONLY of latest filed IRS personal tax return
- A copy of a recent SSI check
- A current paycheck stub indicating gross wages, FIT (Federal Income Tax) and FICA withholding and net wages for each parent of the participant
- A copy of my bank statement showing automatic deposits for my SSI check or other government assistance

Completed application and supporting documents can be emailed to director@ridingunlimited.org or mailed to:

Riding Unlimited
9168 T N Skiles Rd
Ponder, TX 76259



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Financial Aid Renewal Form

This form is for those who have been approved for financial aid within the last year. Please return the form at least one (1) week prior to the start of the session for which you're applying for aid.

Participant Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

Session (include season and year): _____

Applicant Name: _____ Relationship to Participant: _____

Please answer the following:

- How do you wish to volunteer? (check all that apply)
 - __ Weekly in class
 - __ Fundraising
 - __ Ranch work
 - __ Other (specify): _____
- When was the last session you received financial aid? _____
- Have there been any changes to your financial status, medical needs, or mitigating factors?
 - __ Yes __ No
 - If yes, please explain below and provide supporting documentation:

By submitting this information and signing below, I, _____ (please print first and last name) agree to all of the criteria outlined in this application; and I have read and understand the Riding Unlimited Financial Aid Information and Criteria. In addition, I have answered all questions to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Guardian Signature

Date

The renewal form and any supporting documentation can be emailed to director@ridingunlimited.org or mailed to:

Riding Unlimited
9168 T N Skiles Rd.
Ponder, TX 76259