



Adaptive Riding and Ground Work Program Information and Policies

Revised 10/8/2020

Program Fees and Duration:

- Private, 52-minute session: \$65. This 52-minute session allows for time at the end for client/caregiver discussion and education.
- Clients may qualify for supportive funding through the Promise Ranch Scholarship program or through their Community Centered Board (CCB).
- Adaptive Riding is a modality used to help clients achieve both horsemanship as well as therapeutic goals. The duration of lessons will depend on goal achievement. Note that depending on instructor's assessment of need and PATH (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship) standards, the total time on horseback may range from 20-45 minutes. At the instructor's discretion, ground work lessons may also be incorporated, where the student is not on horseback.

Minimum Age

For Adaptive Riding, the minimum age is four years old.

Weight Maximum

Due to safety considerations for staff, participants, volunteers, and horses, we may not be able to accept a client who weighs over 175 pounds for mounted activities. Periodically, we may ask clients to be weighed on a scale at our facility to determine weight and proper pairing with a horse.

Regardless of weight, Promise Ranch reserves the right to refuse to provide mounted horseback services if it is deemed unsafe for the client, staff/volunteers, or equine.

Assessment

Prior to visiting the ranch for assessment, all clients must have completed the registration forms and physician packet and this policy, found on our website <https://www.prtr.org/programs/>.

A client's first visit to the ranch will include a facility tour, a meet and greet with available staff and horses, and an evaluation with a therapist. In this evaluation, the client's abilities, challenges and potential goals will be discussed. Promise Ranch follows PATH guidelines for evaluating precautions and contraindications related to Equine Assisted Activities.

Registration forms must be filled out annually and information updates must be completed for each new session.

Attire and Equipment

All clients must wear ASTM/SEI certified equestrian helmets when mounted on horseback. It is also recommended that clients wear these same helmets when working with horses on the ground. If you do not have your own helmet, Promise Ranch can provide a helmet for you.

You should wear appropriate, comfortable, clothing that is not too loose fitting. An ideal outfit is made up of long pants and closed-toe shoes with a slight heel. Jewelry is NOT recommended. Since we operate year-round, we also recommended layers, scarves, and gloves for unpredictable or inclement weather.



Attendance and Cancellation Policies

- 1) All sessions are by appointment only.
- 2) If you are running late or unable to attend for any reason, you should contact your therapist directly and with as much notice as possible so we do not have horses, volunteers, and staff waiting.
- 3) A minimum of 24 hours notice is required for absences. If we receive less than 24 hours notice, you may be billed a cancellation fee of \$50, regardless of payor source. If you cancel two times within an 8-week period, we reserve the right to discharge you at the end of the 8-week period.
- 4) If you have two no-show/no-call appointments, you will lose your appointment time and the remainder of the 8-week session will be forfeit.
- 5) Clients who arrive more than 15 minutes late to their session will not be able to ride.
- 6) Promise Ranch reserves the right to cancel sessions in the event of unsafe conditions. We may cancel when Douglas County is on accident alert status or when weather or driving conditions have the potential to become dangerous. We will cancel classes in extreme heat (above 95 degrees or when the heat index reaches 130), extreme cold (below 25 degrees), extreme winds, or dangerous thunder and lightning storms. We will make every effort to contact you in a timely manner if a cancellation is deemed necessary. Clients are responsible for supplying us a working, text-capable phone number so that we may contact you urgently. If you are unable to supply a text-capable phone number, we cannot guarantee contact.
- 7) As a courtesy to clients, instructors give them their personal phone numbers. As a courtesy to instructors, clients are respectfully asked to call or text only during ranch business hours.

Billing Policies (private pay)

- 1) You may pay at each session by giving your therapist cash or check, or
- 2) You may pay online at our website - Pay My Invoice, or
- 3) You may have our billing office charge your credit card on file.
- 4) If a check is returned due to insufficient funds, you will be responsible for payment of any bank fees incurred by Promise Ranch in addition to the regular invoice payment.



Discharge Policy:

Promise Ranch strives to provide the safest possible conditions for clients, volunteers, and staff. The acceptance, and continued participation, of an individual in our program depends on the availability of instructors, volunteers, and suitable horses, and is based on our determination that we can safely accommodate the client. Promise Ranch adheres to all precautions and contraindications established by PATH Intl., and we reserve the right to refuse any clients that we cannot safely accommodate. All clients are required to inform us of any and all changes in health status as they occur.

Clients may be discharged from the Adaptive Riding/ Ground Work Program for many different reasons including:

- 1) The client meets all ground work goals and is ready to progress to adaptive riding OR the client has met all riding goals and is ready to progress to riding in a non-therapeutic program not offered by Promise Ranch
- 2) The instructor determines that another specialist or treatment would better serve the client, including a transfer to the Hippotherapy or Outpatient Therapies program
- 3) The instructor determines that Adaptive Riding or Ground Work are no longer the most effective and appropriate treatment strategies for the client
- 4) The client exceeds the weight limit that our horses can safely and humanely carry
- 5) The client, parents or caregivers are uncooperative, by not responding to ranch communications, or interfering with lessons
- 6) The client frequently cancels appointments, does not show for appointments, or misses two or more appointments in an 8-week session
- 7) The client does not pay their bill
- 8) The client or caregivers are disruptive or unpleasant to Promise Ranch staff and/or volunteers



Promise Ranch Safety Policies – General

In order for everyone to get the most out of their experience at PRTR, we strive to provide the safest possible conditions before, during, and after your sessions. Please review the following important policies:

- 1) Minors must be supervised at all times. Please do not leave children unattended or allow running, screaming, or loud noises at the barn.
- 2) Family members and other guests should not approach, touch, or feed any horses without permission.
- 3) Upon arrival, during a session, and upon leaving, please remain quiet and respectful of sessions in progress.
- 4) Family members and other guests must stay clear of the mounting area during mounting and dismounting procedures, unless assisting.
- 5) Family members and other guests should remain outside of the riding area, unless assisting. Assistance from a caregiver should only happen with instructor permission.
- 6) Participants should wait for their instructor prior to approaching and beginning work with their horse.



Promise Ranch Facility Policies

1. Ranch Hours are: Monday – Saturday from 9am to 6pm; exceptions are made for late sessions, clinics, or workshops.
2. Please do not ‘visit’ the ranch without permission.
3. Drive slowly (10mph or less) while on Promise Ranch Property.
4. NO SMOKING, no exceptions.
5. NO WEAPONS, no exceptions.
6. Drugs and Alcohol are prohibited; being under the influence of drugs or alcohol while on PRTR property will result in client dismissal.
7. ONLY service dogs are allowed; dogs must be identified as such, on leash and supervised at all times.
8. Clean up after yourself, your children, and your dog. Trash should go in the trash or recycling containers provided.
9. Keep all gates closed at all times.

By signing below, you, as the client or legal representative of the client, agree to follow the rules and regulations outlined herein, pages 1-5 of Hippotherapy Policies.

Signature:

Date:

(Client/Parent/Guardian)

Printed Name:

Text-Capable Phone Number:

Client Name:

