

# TRAC Client Eligibility Guidelines

TRAC will make every effort to meet the needs of all clients who apply – whether for therapeutic riding or hippotherapy. However, the nature of these activities includes limitations, precautions and occasionally contraindications. These are due to a variety of causes, most notably the following:

- Size and weight-carrying ability of the available horses
- Nature of a disability or condition that would make it unsafe for an individual to ride
- Lack of an appropriate group for an individual to join
- Inability to schedule riding time to coincide with an individual's school or work schedule
- Lack of an adequate number of volunteer aides for a specific time slot

**Physicians Statement:** All TRAC Clients *must* have a signed and dated statement from their doctor.

**Age:** Therapeutic riding clients must be at least 5 years of age.

**Weight Limit:** TRAC reserves the right to impose a weight limit in the event that no horse is available to safely carry a client weighing over 180 pounds. A lower limit may be imposed if illness or injury prevents the use of a suitable horse.

**Behavior:** Inappropriate, unsafe or disruptive behavior or any condition where the client is harmful to him/herself or others is a contraindication to therapeutic horseback riding.

## Evaluation/Re-evaluation

Each potential TRAC therapeutic riding client will receive an initial evaluation by a PATH certified instructor. Based on this evaluation and the client's medical reports, the client will be advised if therapeutic riding is recommended.

Under certain conditions a client's condition may change and a re-evaluation becomes necessary. Based on this re-evaluation, the client may have to cease riding. A doctor's written verification is required for the client to resume riding.

**Medical Precautions and Contraindication** information is available for review in the TRAC waiting room or you may call us to discuss. (provided by PATH – Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship).

## Instruction

All clients and their families need to understand that TRAC is a teaching facility for instructors in training. As such, not all lessons will be conducted by a PATH-certified instructor. However, ALL mounted activities are under the direct supervision of a certified instructor, who will be present in the arena at all times to observe riding sessions, mounting and dismounting..

## TRAC Fees

Fees are \$35 per lesson. Lessons are grouped in sessions of between 6 and 10, depending on the time of year. For longer sessions, the fee will be payable in two installments. For shorter sessions, fees are payable at the first lesson. In cases of financial hardship, families are encouraged to discuss the situation with the TRAC staff to see what arrangements can be worked out.

**Please note re cost of lessons:** If YOU have to cancel lessons at the last minute for any reason, there is no refund. If WE cancel due to weather, etc., we give credit for the lesson. If you notify us well in advance of absence, we will make a one-time adjustment.

**Thank you for understanding these guidelines. It is the intent of TRAC to provide the safest possible therapeutic riding lessons for our clients. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us.**