

RIDER SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Equi-Ed is a non-profit organization. Equi-Ed's goal is to make this program and its benefits available to as many students as possible. Fees are necessary to help defray the expense of our program. **Student fees, however, cover less than half the actual cost of providing a lesson. The cost of providing services per student is more than \$90.00 per lesson, or \$810 for a 9 week session.** Included in these costs are instructor and administration fees, office expenses, insurance, facility maintenance and most importantly, horse care and adaptive equipment. In setting tuition fees for a nine week session at **\$365, every rider** in essence receives tuition assistance of more than **\$445.00**, which Equi-Ed raises through fundraising, donations and grants. The staff and Board of Directors work diligently to ensure the availability of funds to keep tuition costs as affordable as possible.

In recognition that some students would still not be able to participate due to financial constraints, Equi-Ed also makes direct scholarship funds available towards the session fees. Due to limited funds we sincerely hope that application for a scholarship will be made only after careful assessment of your needs. These funds are distributed as equitably as possible, on the basis of need, and awards are dependent upon the number of requests and the amount of funds available. In addition to family income, additional factors that can affect the amount of tuition assistance awarded include having more than one family member with a disability, being a single parent family, willingness to provide volunteer hours on special projects or riders having unusual/extraordinary medical needs. To apply for direct scholarship assistance, the information on the attached form must be completed in its entirety.

Additional paperwork, including a copy of the first two pages of your most recent income tax return, W2's or documentation of participation in a free/reduced school lunch program, may or may not be requested.

Students receiving scholarship assistance **must have a signed photo release** and **agree to provide Equi-Ed with a brief note** (3-4 sentences or up to a page) that we may use to inform our donor's and/or the public (can be published anonymously at your request) about the student's experience and the physical, emotional or social progress and benefits experienced as a result of therapeutic riding. The letter may be written by a caregiver if the rider is a minor, but it is very much appreciated when notes directly from students are included. **The letter/note should be submitted by the first day of the riding session.** These personal letters are an important means of conveying to donors how much their gifts accomplish, and how much their support is appreciated.

We cannot consider this application until all information has been filled out and submitted. Scholarship amounts, if awarded, may range from \$25 up to 75% of the cost of the lesson session.

The staff and volunteers at Equi-Ed look forward to serving you this year!

EQUI-ED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The information below will be kept confidential and will be made available only to the Equi-Ed Scholarship Committee.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Parents/Guardians: _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____

Email: _____

1. Please tell us briefly why you would like a scholarship for your child.

2. Please list any extenuating circumstances that the scholarship committee should consider when reviewing this application. _____

3. Please list all household members and monthly income including SSI, Disability, etc.

Name: Occupation: Monthly Income:

Annual Earned Income Category (Total for the Family, Check One):

1) <\$15,000 __ 2) \$15,000-\$25,000__ 3) \$25,000-\$50,000 __ 4) \$50,000-\$65,000 __ 5) > \$65k

Please list amount per year of any aid or support you receive other than earned income (ex: alimony, child support, welfare, disability payments, etc). _____

Number of Dependents in Household: Adults _____ Children _____

List other people dependent upon your income (e.g., parents): _____

Please identify below other financial obligations you may have that should be considered with this Scholarship: _____

Application. In addition, if there are other factors you feel might affect consideration of this application, please explain them.

Are you willing to volunteer your time and assist with fundraising events? _____

I certify that all of the above information is true and all income is reported agree to adhere to all requirements to receive tuition assistance for myself or legal ward.

Signature _____ Date _____

Return to: Equi-Ed, 1535 Farmers Lane #217, Santa Rosa, CA 95405 or email infoequied@aol.com