Riding Instructor Certification Glossary

**Accommodation**
An accommodation is an adjustment or an adaptation of a component or components of the Registered Instructor Certification Process in order to meet the special needs of a candidate. All requests for accommodation must be accompanied by a doctor’s note documenting a long-term physical condition or disability. Accommodation requests will be reviewed by the PATH Intl. Riding Certification Subcommittee on an individual basis to determine appropriate, reasonable accommodations.

**ATC (Approved Training Course)**
These courses teach individuals the skills necessary to become a PATH Intl. Certified Instructor at the registered or advanced level. The courses have been approved by PATH Intl.

**Center Accreditation Training (CAT) Course**
This is an on-line course designed to familiarize the candidate with the PATH Intl. Standards and Accreditation Manual. Generally, the national and most regional conferences host an on-site version of this course, which is also an acceptable form of the course and exam for those pursuing instructor certification.

**Direct Supervision**
Direct supervision means the PATH Intl. Certified Instructor is at the activity site and is aware of and responsible for the program activity in the arena and on the premises. The purpose of direct supervision is to provide on-going feedback by a mentor to help you improve your teaching techniques.

**Guidance**
Guidance is provided by a PATH Intl. Certified Instructor who may not be at your center. The Certified Instructor can provide guidance through personal visits, video reviews, phone conversations, and e-mail.

**Host Site**
A Host Site is a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center or PATH Intl. Center Member where the PATH Intl. On-Site Workshop and/or Certification is conducted. The host site is responsible for all Phase II components of the Certification Process. All forms for Phase Two should be obtained from and returned to the Host Site.

**Instructor CAT Exam**
This is the on-line exam instructor candidates take after they have completed the CAT Course. It is a required component of Phase I.

**Instructor Self-Study Exam**
This is an on-line course designed to help the candidate assess individual strengths and weaknesses. The Self-Study is a process to evaluate one's abilities in specific aspects of therapeutic horsemanship to determine
readiness to successfully complete certification. It is a required component of Phase I.

**IT (INSTRUCTOR IN TRAINING)**
This is a candidate who has successfully completed Phase One of the Registered Instructor Certification process. This status will be valid for one year from the date on the Confirmation of Instructor-In-Training Status letter.

**MENTOR**
A trusted counselor or guide and a PATH Intl. Certified Riding Instructor. This person should be experienced in the field of Therapeutic Horsemanship to provide helpful, appropriate guidance during practice teaching.

**PATH INTL. INSTRUCTOR COMPLIANCE FORM**
The form utilized for annual renewal for Certified Instructors, which is to be submitted concurrent with their PATH Intl. memberships. This form needs to be completed in its entirety as it includes space for you to list hours of continuing education, sign the Instructor Code of Ethics and current PATH Intl. Instructor membership.

**ON-SITE CERTIFICATION PROCESS**
Instructor candidates are evaluated, in person, on their teaching and horsemanship abilities by PATH Intl. Evaluators during a 2 ½ day process. Riding exams may occur on the evening of the last day of the workshop. Also, if the Host Site has too many candidates to test in one day, certification may run over two days.

**ON-SITE WORKSHOP**
The 2 ½ day workshop reviews basic information and skills to help prepare you for successful completion of the PATH Intl. Instructor Certification at the Registered level.