



The PATH Intl. Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor (CTRI) is a voluntary, entry-level credential for individuals in the Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) profession who provide riding instruction and therapeutic value to people with disabilities. This may include mounted or unmounted work partnering with an equine. PATH Intl. CTRIs have met established criteria and standards of practice in the field. They have demonstrated their knowledge of disabilities, equines, teaching, and human-animal interactions.

Summary Description of the CTRI

The PATH Intl. CTRI has the maturity and knowledge to safely and effectively teach basic riding skills to riders with disabilities.

A CTRI should be able to perform the following tasks:

- Conduct an effective, safe and basic equestrian lesson to individuals with disabilities
- Instruct basic arena patterns
- Create lesson plans and notes following the lesson
- Set participant goals
- Manage volunteers
- Identify basic horse body language and communication
- Manage equine behavior within a lesson setting
- Groom and tack an equine in preferred discipline
- Properly fit equipment to horse and participant
- Manage basic behavioral issues with equines and riders
- Identify and correct basic student and equine issues during a lesson
- Respond to emergencies (e.g., emergency dismounts, basic horse first aid issues)

With what does the CTRI require assistance from other EAAT professionals?

- Matching horses and equipment to riders
- Adapting tack to meet complex needs
- Teaching intermediate equestrian lessons
- Schooling/conditioning program horses
- Identifying form and function blemishes in equines
- Mount and dismount non-ambulatory individuals with disabilities (e.g., wheelchair mount/dismount with or without a lift)
- Manage severe behavioral issues with equines and riders
- Identifying areas for improvement within lessons
- Identify and correct complex student and equine issues during a lesson

With what tools should the CTRI be familiar?

Equestrian equipment
Mobility and language assistive devices
Mounting and dismounting equipment (e.g., ramps, blocks)
Digital note taking programs
Progress tracking scales/measurement tools
Disability-related resource materials

In what environments should the CTRI be comfortable?

All equine related facilities and venues

What is the CTRI NOT expected to do/know?

Demonstrate advanced riding skills
Instruct advanced riding skills
Provide therapy (physical, emotional, educational)
Manage a therapeutic riding program or center