

Equine Research Foundation

P. O. Box 1900, Aptos, CA 95001 USA
Tel: (831) 662-9577 Fax: (831) 662-9575 Email: EquiResF@aol.com

Horse Cognition & Behavior Project Application

Internship 2010

First Name	M. I.	Last Name	Nickname	Age
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Street Address	City/State	Apt. No.	Zip Code
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Home Phone	Business Phone	Fax	Email
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Occupation: _____

Do you own a horse? Yes/No # of years owned: _____ Have you previously owned a horse? Yes/No

Have you ever participated in scientific research? If so, where? _____

Have you attended horse training clinics? If so, which trainers? _____

Hobbies other than horses: _____

- Interns may apply for college credit, which they arrange with their schools.
- We accept *two interns per season* so early application is highly recommended.
- On a separate sheet, please tell us what you hope to gain by participating in our program.
- Please include **a resume and three letters of recommendation** with your application.

Internships begin on July 1 and end on July 30

- In order to secure your space, a deposit of \$500.00 must be included with this application. We accept checks or money orders. Sorry, we cannot accept charge cards. Deposits are returned if intern is not accepted by the ERF into program.
- Minimum age - 18 years.

Terms: Cost - \$1,500.00; Deposit with application - \$500.00. Beach rides are an extra cost.

Balance is due 45 days prior to arrival. Sign-ups less than 45 days in advance of arrival will need to send payment in full with application.

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER POLICY		
Time remaining before arrival at ERF:	From time of application to 45 days	44 days or less
If an intern cancels:	Equine Research Foundation retains \$450 deposit	No refunds
<i>If you cancel, you may transfer to another team if space is available or substitute a replacement person (contingent on approval of their application). Cancellation fees may be considered a tax deductible contribution to the Equine Research Foundation (ERF).</i>		

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Intern Horse Experience Questionnaire

Please fill out accurately. We will use this information to pair you with a horse that best suits your abilities.

Do you now or have you owned a horse _____ How long _____

Type of Riding _____ Frequency _____

If you do not now or have never owned a horse, please tell us about your horse experience: _____

Have you taken lessons _____ For how long _____

Type of lessons _____ When & where were lessons taken _____

Are you comfortable around horses _____

Have you done any horse training (please explain) _____

Have you attended horse training clinics? If so, which trainers? _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Please print

Signature: _____

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Medical Questionnaire

Please fill out and return with your application.

First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
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DOB: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

General Fitness: Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____

List any health problems or conditions (for example: pregnancy, seizures, physical or mental limitations) that may limit your participation in our activities: _____

List any allergies to medicine: _____
List any allergies to foods or plants: _____
List any heart problems: _____
List any medication required: _____

Are you a smoker: Yes/No Packs/day: _____

- We recommend a current tetanus shot.
- Some medical conditions may require a doctor's release.

The Equine Research Foundation reserves the right to limit certain activities or turn down or send home individuals who do not accurately portray their abilities, health conditions, or purpose for participation if such individuals are considered by the ERF to be a risk to themselves, to others, or to horses, or a significant hindrance to the research.

Our emphasis at the Equine Research Foundation is on safety. We stress safety in all aspects of work and horse handling.

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Internships

What you can expect:

- ◆ The Equine Research Foundation is not a dude ranch. The program in which you will be involved is part of a scientific research project geared toward gaining a deeper understanding of the horse's mind. During your stay as a participant, you will learn what it takes to do scientific research. You will participate in all phases of the research including operation of testing apparatus, handling the animals during the tests, videotaping sessions, collecting data, journal record keeping, and more. Through demonstrations, observation, and hands-on experience you will learn how the findings of the Equine Research Foundation relate to human dealings with horses and how cognition, perception, and behavior principles apply to handling and training. The Equine Research Foundation has been featured in national and international television documentaries, radio and Internet interviews, and publishes articles in national and international magazines and scientific journals.
- ◆ You will also receive instruction and hands-on experience working and playing with horses using the Equine Research Foundation methods of ground schooling and bond formation. These methods are based on equine social dynamics, herd behavior, psychology, and positive reinforcement. All methodology is noninvasive, creates strong human/horse bonds, and forms a willing partnership between you and your horse.
- ◆ You have the option to participate in the beach rides (extra cost) - along the shoreline of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary where we often observe sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions, dolphins, whales, and a large variety of sea birds.
- ◆ You will meet, work, and make friends with a diverse group of people. We have had participants from Germany, Austria, France, Portugal, Australia, England, Scotland, Ireland, Japan, Canada as well as from all across the United States. We have had teachers, lawyers, doctors, veterinarians, researchers, students, horse lovers, horse trainers, people brand new to the horse world, and people from every walk of life. All left with a new appreciation for horses and the horse's mind. They learned techniques for teaching their horses how to become the responsive and agreeable partners they always wished for.

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Your contribution is used to support the research of the Equine Research Foundation and your participation in the project. This includes costs of the scientific staff, research equipment, maintenance, volunteer housing and food, animal care, and publication expenses.

Your participation is tax deductible!

In the United States, the Equine Research Foundation is a public charity described by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is not a private foundation, as it is an organization described in section 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(VI) of the Internal Revenue Code. Residents of countries other than the U.S. should check with the appropriate revenue agency.

In general, contributions of cash, securities, and property donated by U.S. citizens to support scientific research projects are tax deductible. Furthermore, under certain circumstances volunteers may deduct reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for transportation to and from research sites.

Since tax circumstances for individuals vary, the Equine Research Foundation cannot be responsible for tax advice to its volunteers and sponsors. We suggest that you consult your own tax advisor.

Airport Transfer Information – see website for more options

Early Bird Airport Shuttle: (831) 462-3933. Private car or van takes you directly from the airport to the Equine Research Foundation. Call for rates from San Francisco or San Jose International airports.

Airporter Service: (831) 423-1214. Van brings you to the town of Aptos where you will need to take a taxi to the ERF. Makes several stops depending on number of passengers so takes longer. Call for rates from San Francisco or San Jose International airports.

Both services require reservations.

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What to bring with you:

- An assortment of comfortable clothing to fit a wide variety of temperatures. We are close to the coast so some days can be foggy or foggy early in the day and then warm and sunny in the afternoon. Evenings are frequently cool.
- Rain is infrequent but possible.
- Personal items –sunscreen, hat, gloves, sturdy shoes or boots (required).
- Riding helmets are available for the beach ride. However, you are welcome to bring your own ASTM/SEI approved one.
- Cameras – you are welcome to photograph the horses, staff, facility, wildlife, scenery, etc. No photographs or video are allowed of the research or research equipment. No videocameras are allowed during research or horsemanship instruction but are fine for general scenery and horses.
- Binoculars – we have birds, coyote, bobcats, deer, and other wildlife so bring binoculars if you enjoy observing animals up close.

If you have questions as to what to bring, please email or call.

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Internships

The Equine Research Foundation is located at a 40 acre horse facility in the hills of Aptos, California. Aptos is a quaint village, established in 1851, located 10 miles southeast of Santa Cruz, a popular seaside resort. The facility is located in a rural wooded area with an elevation of 500 to 700 feet above sea level. It is four miles from the village of Aptos and five miles from the ocean. Temperatures are quite moderate, summer ranges from 55° to 85°, winter from 28° to 65°. Our rainy season is November through April. Occasional fog occurs in the summer months but usually dissipates by mid-morning. Our woods consist of redwood, pine, fir, oak, madrone, eucalyptus, bay, as well as others. We are close to the several thousand acre Nisene Marks Park which has miles of hiking trails through varied terrain. (Hikers may encounter poison oak and mosquitoes). There are miles of beaches for walking, beachcombing, sunbathing, swimming, surfing and scuba diving (water temperature averages 55°). At the ranch we have a resident population of deer, coyotes, raccoons, bobcats - all are often seen traversing the ranch during the daylight hours. Resident birds include California quail, Steller's and scrub jays, thrashers, woodpeckers and raptors (hawks, falcons, owls, occasional golden eagles). Being on the Pacific migratory route, we are visited seasonally by an exceptional number of species of birds.

Within 15 to 30 minutes drive are the seaside town of Santa Cruz with the famous beach boardwalk, numerous beaches, Henry Cowell and Big Basin Redwoods State Parks, Roaring Camp Steam Railroad, the University of California and Long Marine Laboratory, as well as many other parks and points of interest such as many small but award winning wineries. Santa Cruz county is located on the Monterey Bay, a national marine sanctuary. Depending on the time of year, visitors can observe gray whales, blue whales, killer whales, dolphins, porpoises, sea otters, seals and sea lions either from shore or by boat. Whale watching excursions are available seasonally.

Within 30 to 90 minutes drive to the south are Monterey and the Monterey Peninsula, site of historic and scenic beauty including the renowned 17 mile drive with its fantastic shoreline and golf courses, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Fisherman's Wharf, and Cannery Row. To the north are Natural Bridges State Beach (migratory stop-over of the monarch butterflies), Ano Nuevo State Reserve (home to thousands of elephant seals, sea lions and sea birds seasonally), more beaches and parks and rugged, scenic coastline. Silicon Valley, with historical and cultural museums, shopping, and the world famous Winchester Mystery house, is within an easy drive.

For those interested in an excursion of greater length, some points of interest are: the majestic Big Sur coastline, Hearst castle, Yosemite, San Francisco, and the Napa Valley.