

Volunteer Job description Horse Leader

Objective:

The objective for a horse leader is to be responsible for an assigned horse before, during and after class.

Qualifications Required:

- Minimum age of fourteen
- Satisfactory completion of a North Country RIDE orientation session or one on one session and a minimum of one (1) additional training session annually.
- Horse experience preferred but not required
- Able to halter, lead, tie and tack a horse (English or Western) –training provided
- Able to groom a horse – training provided
- Must be able to walk, and jog periodically, for an hour at a time (indoors/outdoors) on uneven surfaces
- Ability to recognize possible warning signs and/or hazards pertaining to the horse – training provided
- Ability to communicate with instructor, other volunteers, and rider.
- Must have adequate vision and hearing to ensure safety of horses and participants
- Be able to lift up to 20 pounds (saddle) above your head
- Ability to work collaboratively with Staff and Volunteers

Responsibilities:

- Ensure horse is groomed, tacked and warming up in arena 10 min. prior to class
- Lead the horse during class, within a group including side walkers, keeping primary focus on assigned horse while maintaining communication with team
- Listen to and enact directions of the instructor
- Untack the horse after class
- Caring for tack and equipment in a manner to preserve its life of usefulness.
- Adhering to all North Country RIDE policies and procedures.

Timeframe: - we are flexible on time commitment

- Commitment to one class each week for a six week session
- Estimated total weekly hours: two hours per class

Volunteer Benefits:

- Satisfaction of helping your community
- Gain an understanding and appreciation of what it means to live with a disability
- Learn about the care and healing aspects of the horse
- Acquire community service experience for school, church, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, personal resume, etc.
- Personal growth; development of new friendships