

Paula West Therapeutic Riding Fund

Scholarship Application

For Ages 5-18 in Allegan and VanBuren counties

The resources for these scholarships are limited to \$250.00 a student per family. We try to provide financial assistance to those riders who cannot afford the fee. This scholarship can be used for a limited series of sessions or for a camp. If a more extensive program is chosen, the scholarship may be applied toward sessions but remains at \$250.00. The applicant's family needs to work out the payment arrangement for the balance with Cheff Riding Center directly. Transportation to Center is not included.

Applicant's Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

Day Time Phone _____ Night Time Phone _____

Email _____

Disability or Health Issue _____

How long has the health issue been present? _____

Has the applicant had Therapeutic Riding in the past? _____

If so, has the applicant had any scholarship previously? _____

Was the previous scholarship from the Paula West Therapeutic Riding Fund? _____

Is the applicant under a physician care? A physical will be required by Cheff's Riding Center to best suit the program and horse to the applicant needs. _____

What does the applicant and family hope to accomplish in the program? _____

Where does applicant reside with family? _____ Single parent? _____

Foster home? _____ Under guardianship? _____

Total Number in household _____ Income of household _____

Are other family members disabled? _____

If you answered yes to this please provide details:

Are there any other details that should be taking into consideration?

By submitting this information and signing below I _____ (please print first and last name). Parent / Guardian of Applicant
Name _____

Agree to all of the criteria outlined in this application; and I have read and understand the Paula west Therapeutic Riding Fund Scholarship Criteria Sheet. In addition I have answered all of the questions to the best of my Knowledge.

_____ I agree that photos may be taken for the promotion of the Therapeutic Riding Fund

_____ I respectfully decline photos to be taken for the promotion of the Therapeutic Riding Fund

Applicant Signature or Parent/ Guardian

Date

Enclosed is a copy of **one** of the following to support my application:

__The first page ONLY of my most recent Federal Tax return

__A copy of a recent SSI check

__ A copy of my bank statement showing automatic deposits for my SSI check or other government assistance.

Please return completed application to:

The Paula West Therapeutic Riding Scholarship Fund

c/o Allegan General Hospital Foundation

555 Linn Street

Allegan, MI 49010

For more information on Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center visit: www.cheffcenter.org

Cheff is a year round facility with many Spring, Summer and Fall schedules both inside and out.

Paula West Therapeutic Riding Fund-Scholarship

Application Criteria and Procedure

- A. The Paula West Therapeutic Riding Fund Scholarships are available to:
1. Children and teens ages 5-18 who reside in Allegan or VanBuren counties. Should and application be received outside of these counties they will be notified by mail to contact Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center for other scholarships or funding available.
 2. There must be a physical, emotional, behavioral or mental need and under a physician or mental health provider's care in order to qualify.
 3. There must be evidence of a financial need.
 4. Employees of AGH or APHS are not exempt from applying if they have a family member who meets the above criteria.
 5. Applications will be accepted November 1 –March 1 of each year.
- B. ALL scholarship applications will be submitted in the form of a complete application and one of the following: A copy of the first page ONLY of your recent Federal Tax Return, or a copy of an SSI check or copy of your bank statement showing automatic deposits for SSI check or other government assistance.

Incomplete applications will not be considered for the year's funding. These applicants are welcome to submit for the next year when the new applications become available in November. They will be notified that their application was incomplete. Applications will not be held for reconsideration from year to year. Applicants will be required to submit a new application and documents each year they wish to apply for the scholarship.

- C. The applications must be received by March 1. The Paula West Therapeutic Riding Fund Committee will meet in March to review applications. Announcements of Scholarship Recipients will be in April. In order to ensure the fairness of this process, the scholarship committee will receive a copy of your application with personal information (e.g. name and address) blacked out to ensure anonymity during the application process.

- D. Recipients will be notified of the award and invited to an Award Presentation to receive certificate at Allegan General Hospital. If they are unable to attend then the certificates will be mailed to their home.
- E. Once the Award Recipient has been notified they will need to contact Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center **within 30 days** to set up an initial meeting to obtain further information packet and schedule a session. Failure to notify the Riding Center in 30 days of the award will forfeit the funding.
- F. Note sessions do not have to occur in the 30 days but need to initiate contact with Cheff Riding Center to schedule sessions to occur at some point within the year.
- G. Once the Award Recipient has scheduled their sessions, Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center will bill the Allegan General Hospital Foundation for the recipient sessions. All awards are limited to \$250.00. If a more extensive series is chosen the balance is the responsibility of the applicant and family. Transportation and lodging is not considered part of scholarship.
- H. All assistance is granted by the decision of the Scholarship Committee and decisions are final. All applications received by the Paula West Therapeutic Riding Fund will be held in the strictest of confidence.