



PARTICIPANT SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Southern Reins Center for Equine Therapy is a non-profit charity organization. Fees for participating in our programs are necessary to help defray the expenses associated with equine assisted activities. The fees collected cover a small percentage of the overall cost associated with maintaining the facilities, equine care, insurance, and overall programming at Southern Reins.

Southern Reins is committed to providing financial assistance to participants who otherwise do not have the financial means to take part in the program, and who meet requisite criteria. In addition to completing this scholarship application, there is an expectation that participants through their guardianship will investigate other means of financial support (please see list of other funding sources attached to this application). It is the sole responsibility of the Scholarship Committee to award all scholarships. There will be a majority vote of the by the committee members when selecting scholarship recipients. Scholarships are not awarded in cash; they are awarded solely in the form of one lesson session a week for the duration of 10 weeks. If you are not selected to receive a scholarship for a particular session, you may reapply for a future session, but you can only partake in one session per year on scholarship.

Any new participant who is awarded a scholarship must have all paperwork, including physician's referral, new participant assessment, release of liability, medical consent and photo release. The assessment will be scheduled prior to the start of the session. It is the sole discretion of Southern Reins Center for Equine Therapy to retract a scholarship if there are any contraindications or if the program is not deemed appropriate for the rider by the Program Director upon the conclusion of the assessment.

At the end of your session, we also require a parent/caregiver testimonial to share the positive benefits received from participating in the program.

Requirements:

- **Deadline:** Scholarship applications must be submitted on time. Any application received after the application deadline will not be considered. Scholarship applications must be completed in full for consideration. Applications should be emailed to Meredith Massa, Volunteer & Program Coordinator, at meredith.massa@southernreins.org, or mail to: 916 Billy Bryant Road, Collierville TN 38017.
- **Eligibility:** Participants may receive financial assistance for one session per calendar year.
- **Participation:** If a rider receives a scholarship and misses more than 25% of their lessons, unless there is an unforeseen medical or emergency situation, they will not be eligible to re-apply for another scholarship from Southern Reins. Further, if a participant is a no-show or cancels within 2 hours of the scheduled lesson time for two or more lessons, the scholarship will be forfeit for the remainder of the session.

Criteria:

- Funding is dependent on the availability of funds at the time of scholarship application.
- Participant need is required, including a case for support.
- Participant commitment is required for the riding session to arrive on time.
- In order to serve as many individuals as possible, Southern Reins limits the number of scholarships to one session per calendar year.



PARTICIPANT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

This application for a scholarship must include:

- The first page of the most recent IRS income tax return
- Your case for support indicating factors that are pertinent to the need for financial assistance. This is a competitive process; therefore, your case for support should thoroughly explain why financial aid is needed.

All information included in this application will remain confidential.

PARTICIPANT NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ DIAGNOSIS: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CAREGIVER NAME: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please circle the lesson session you are applying for:

WINTER

SPRING

SUMMER

FALL

Is this your first time applying for a scholarship? ___YES ___NO If "NO" when did you last apply?

If you have received prior scholarship funding, please indicate session and year of past awards:

How many adults are in your household: _____ How many dependent children are in your household: _____

Do you have more than one individual in your household with a disability? ___YES ___NO If yes, how many? _____

Combined household annual income: _____

**Please attach a copy of your most recent federal tax return or pay stub to this application.*

Have you applied for any other financial assistance similar to those listed on page 5/6 of this application? ___YES ___NO

If YES, where have you applied: _____

What other programs is your participant involved in that are an out-of-pocket expense: _____

Are you currently receiving benefits from the state, such as food stamps, Medicaid, or have you been approved for a reduced or free lunch through a public school system? YES NO

Do you have any additional sources of income (real estate, child support, social security, disability, alimony, pensions, retirement, etc.)? YES NO

If YES, please explain amounts, frequency of income and source: _____

Are there any extenuating circumstances that you could share with us to aid in this decision? Please provide information on why you are applying for a scholarship, and feel free to attach additional pages, if necessary.

Please briefly describe why you believe our program will be beneficial for the applicant:

****PLEASE INCLUDE A PHOTOGRAPH OF YOUR PARTICIPANT TO ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION****



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND POLICY CONFIRMATION

By signing below, you agree to the Scholarship Policy and formally submit your application for consideration.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (OR PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARETAKER)

_____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Please complete and ensure this application is received at least three (3) weeks in advance of the requested session and **fax to 901-328-6328, email to meredith.massa@southernreins.org, or mail to:**

Southern Reins Center for Equine Therapy
Attn: Meredith Massa
916 Billy Bryant Road
Collierville TN 38017

You will be contacted with the results of your scholarship application at least one (1) week prior to the start of your requested session.

Thank you for completing this application.

OUR MISSION: The mission of Southern Reins Center for Equine Therapy is to serve individuals with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities and hardship by providing equine assisted activities and therapies to empower, inspire, nurture and succeed.



OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Forrest Spence Fund

PO Box 770478
Memphis, TN 38177
www.forrestspencefund.org

The Forrest Spence Fund is an official 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that was founded in 2007 in memory of Robert Forrest Spence. The mission of the Fund is to assist with the non-medical needs of critically or chronically ill children and their families throughout the Mid-South.

Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi

315 Loshier Street, Ste. 100
Hernando MS 38632
662-449-5502
www.cfnm.org

The Community Foundation connects people who care with causes that matter. It assists donors as well as nonprofit organizations and charitable causes make a difference in people's lives. While donors designate their charitable contributions, the foundation has set its priorities as education, health and children in order to make the greatest impact on its community.

Variety Children's Charity

5796 Shelby Oaks Drive, Suite 7R
Memphis, TN 38134
901-373-5368
www.varietychildrenscharity-memphis.com

Variety Children's Charity provides life-enriching assistance to children challenged by physical and/or mental disabilities, poverty, abuse and neglect.

Noah's Gift

c/o The Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi
315 Loshier Street, Ste. 100
Hernando MS 38632
662-449-5502
www.noahsgift.org

Noah's Gift was created to inspire and reward deserving young people with the gift of an extraordinary experience that was of interest to 16-year-old Noah Costa at the time of his death. His interests were as wide-ranging and fun as his personality: playing hockey, traveling, hiking, water sports, skydiving, and much more. Noah's Gift makes grants to deserving teenagers to pursue an extraordinary experience.

SRVS Family Support

3971 Knight Arnold Road

Memphis, TN 38118

901-869-7787

www.SRVS.org

SRVS Family Support provides assistance for children and adults with developmental disabilities and physical disabilities. Assistance can be in the form of respite, before and after school care, specialized equipment and supplies, education and home and vehicle modification. The Family Support program serves people in Shelby and Fayette Counties.