



1320 Commerce St. Ste. A, Petaluma, CA 94954
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Scholarship Opportunities

Giant Steps Therapeutic Equestrian Center is dedicated to making our service available to all who can benefit from therapeutic riding. Through donations, Giant Steps is able to offer financial assistance to families and individuals who qualify and cannot afford the program tuition. This assistance is provided in the form of adjusted fees to those who demonstrate need.

The actual cost per lesson per rider is approximately \$150, however, the tuition is \$60, so over 65% is already subsidized. Scholarships are based solely upon financial need, and though our policy is that no rider be turned away for lack of funds, we expect your request for a scholarship to be genuine and proven quantitatively and fairly by the inclusion of your previous year's tax return.

Please keep a copy of the following scholarship policy for your records:

- A Scholarship Application Form must be completed at the time of your application for the program, including tax-returns or supporting documentation of financial need. Please note all information is kept confidential.
 - A scholarship committee will review all completed applications. If necessary a meeting will be arranged with a member of this committee to review your application with you.
 - Final determination of a scholarship given will be based on the demonstrated financial need of the rider's family and the funds available.
- Those on scholarship are asked to set up a fundraising page and raise a minimum of \$600 per year.
- Scholarship recipients and/or their parents or care providers are required to volunteer to help contribute towards the program needs. Here is a list of ways you can help:
- ❖ Volunteer a minimum of one hour a week during the 10 week session. Parents/care providers are welcome to volunteer during their child's lesson (requires attendance at one volunteer orientation & training – dates on calendar).
 - ❖ Volunteer for an event.
 - ❖ Volunteer in the office.
- If this isn't possible for you, please call Julie Larson at 707-781-9455 to discuss other ways to help.

It is important to emphasize that scholarship funds are limited. Scholarship requests are reviewed strictly on household income and number of dependants so as to be fair. It is our goal to assist as many children and adults with disabilities as possible who need our services and not have anyone turned away due to finances.

If you have any questions about the scholarship application or process, please contact the office manager at 707-769-8900.



Please check (✓), sign and date all applicable requirements below.

- I agree to the volunteer requirement to help contribute towards the program needs. (Listed above on page 1 are some ways you can help)
- Our weekly schedule is at maximum capacity and we have started a waitlist for students wishing to ride at Giant Steps. To ensure that everyone gets the most out of their therapeutic riding lessons we will be strictly enforcing an attendance policy for scholarship riders. **Any scholarship rider who misses more than 30% of the lessons in any one term will forfeit their scholarship. The only exception to this rule will be a doctor excused extended absence. A scholarship rider who misses a lesson and does not call ahead to cancel will be charged a \$10 “No Show” fee.**

I understand that _____ (name of scholarship recipient) will automatically forfeit his/her Giant Steps scholarship if more than 30% of the lessons in any one session are missed, and that a \$10 “No Show” fee will be charged if a cancellation call is not placed prior to the start of the lesson.

Determination of a scholarship given based on your income and dependants

To determine your qualification for a scholarship, locate your income according to the number of dependants in the chart below and follow the column down to the corresponding Rider Tuition and Scholarship amount. For example a family with 2 dependents with an income of approximately 50,000 would pay \$240 tuition and receive a \$360/60% scholarship.

Number of Household Dependents	Household Income	Household Income	Household Income	Household Income	Household Income
1	17,400	28,950	45,550	57,800	69,350
2	19,850	33,050	52,000	66,100	79,300
3	22,350	37,200	58,500	74,350	89,200
4	24,800	41,300	65,000	82,600	99,100
5	28,410	44,650	70,200	89,200	107,050

Example of Scholarship rates based on the above scale:

Rider Tuition	\$60	\$120	\$240	\$360	\$480
Scholarship	\$540	\$480	\$360	\$240	\$120
% of scholarship	90%	80%	60%	40%	20%

(Tuition rates quoted above based on a 10-week session)

This median income schedule is based on the FY 2015 median household Income for Sonoma County as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Household income is adjusted for family size in accordance with HUD standard adjustment factors. The current median income became effective on 4/15/2015.

I certify that all of the information provided in this document is true and correct.

Name: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____