



Saddle Pals Volunteer Crew Job Description

Position: Sidewalker

Reports to: Instructor and/or Volunteer Coordinator

Description: Individuals trained to walk alongside students and horses during lessons for physical and emotional support and safety

Job Responsibilities:

- Sidewalk with a student rider during lessons
- Help student prepare for class
- Grooming and tacking horse, or assisting student in doing so
- Responsible for leading student to mounting area and keeping them safely away from horse traffic
- Assure that students are conducting themselves in a safe manner around the horses
- Assist instructors with mounts and dismounts of students
- Assist instructor with classes as needed

Qualifications:

- Minimum age of 14 years old
- Displays mature and responsible behavior
- Must meet height requirements for each individual horse they are walking with
- Commitment of at least one hour per week for at least one 10 week session
- Reliable
- Punctual
- Physically fit with no restrictions that would prevent moving, reacting, or responding quickly in the event of sudden movements by horse or student
- Able to walk and jog at a brisk pace for at least 30 minutes

Prerequisites:

- Completion of all required volunteer paperwork
- Must have successfully completed Sidewalker Training
- Must be able to demonstrate skills required for sidewalking including safety holds and emergency dismount procedures
- Must be able to demonstrate proper grooming and tacking techniques