

BAY STATE EQUINE RESCUE, INC.

415 Hunt Road
Oakham, MA 01068
508-882-3704

www.Baystateequinerescue.com

ADOPTION PROGRAM

4 Easy Steps To Apply for Adoption (please read carefully)

- 1) This application consists of Sections 1,2,3 and Appendices A,B,C and D. Sections 1,2 and 3 are required. Fill out Appendices A,B,C and D only as needed. Please print clearly. Make sure you fill out every question that applies to you. Signatures are required. All test questions should be answered (please use references as needed). All items of your application are strictly private and we abide by all state and national privacy laws. This application will be kept as a historical record if you adopt, in the adoption horses file.

Appendix A: Definition of Experience level according to BSER.

Appendix B: Reference Form

Appendix C: Primary handler addendum, to be filled out when the primary handler/rider is different from the adopter (a child, a student, family members, customers, etc.)

Appendix D: Boarding Facility, filled out by the boarding facility manager or owner if planning to board your adoption horse (this is anyone not keeping the horse on the family farm on which you reside).

- 2). Return the completed application to us by mail at the above address. Keep a copy for yourself. Most applications take two weeks for approval. Sometimes delays as long as one month occur. We will do our best to get you approved as quickly as possible. We do not guarantee approval for the horse you are applying for. Approved adopters take priority over new applicants.
- 3). Send photos of your horse facility (barn inside and out, run ins, pastures, fencing and your farm animals.) Please send your entire application as one packet. If you need materials returned include a stamped self-addressed envelope.
- 4). Please include the \$100 non-refundable application fee with your application, made out to Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc. No application will be approved without the fee, references and photos.

Adoption Application

1. All persons applying to adopt must answer the following questions about the adopter (defined as the person over age 25 who is employed and will be legally, physically and financially responsible for the horse). If this is a joint adoption, complete Appendix E.

1. Today's Date: _____
2. Name of the horse you are applying for: _____
3. Who is the horse being adopted for? _____
4. How did you hear about BSER? _____

Adopter's Personal Information

1. Adopter's full name: _____
2. Adopter's age: _____
3. Full street address: _____
4. City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
5. Number of years at this residence: _____
6. Do you rent or own your home? _____
7. Home Phone # _____ Work # _____
8. E-mail address: _____
9. Describe any health or physical issues that may interfere with the care of this horse: _____
10. Have you or anyone in your household had any incidence with the SPCA? If yes please explain.

Adopter's Work History

1. Adopter's profession: _____
2. Employer or company name: _____
3. Work Address: _____
4. Number of years with this employer: _____
5. If you are not employed explain how this horse will be financially supported.

6. If your current relationship with the equine bill payer changes how do you anticipate being able to financially care for the horse?

Horse History

1. Have you ever owned horses (as an adult where you are the primary care giver)? _____
2. If yes, how many horses have you owned as an adult? _____
3. How long did you own your last horse? _____
4. What is the shortest time you have owned a horse ? _____ Explain:

5. What is the longest time you have owned a horse ? _____
6. How many years experience do you have with owning horses? _____
7. Would you consider yourself a beginner, intermediate or advanced handler?
Please refer to Appendix A of this application _____
8. Would you consider yourself a beginner, intermediate or advanced rider?
Please refer to Appendix A of this application _____
9. What riding/driving discipline(s) have you concentrated your study in?

10. What breeds of horses have you ridden consistently (minimum of 3 times per week for a year). _____
11. Have you ridden anything other than school or lesson horses? _____
12. Have you handled or ridden untrained or young horses? _____
13. Have you ridden hot breed horses? _____ If yes, explain:

14. If you have never owned, how do you plan to get the training required to own a horse?

15. Have you ever sold or given away a horse? _____
Explain: _____
16. Have you ever had a horse euthanized? _____ If yes, explain each situation:

17. Have you ever had a horse die in your care or while you owned it? _____ If yes, explain: _____
18. Has there been a break in your riding or equine training? _____ How long has the break been ? _____ How do you plan to refresh your skills? _____

Formal Training

Write a short paragraph explaining your training and experience.

Check all that applies regarding formal training and/or experience the adopter and the primary handler (if applicable) has in the following areas.

<u>Experience</u>	<u>Adopter</u>	<u>Primary Handler</u>
Equine Clinics		
Technical equine Schools		
Employment in Equine industry		
4-H Horse Club Pony Club		
Riding/Driving Lessons		
Organized Horse Events		
Horse Shows		
Breeding Experience		
Equine College Undergraduate		
Equine college Graduate		
Instructor Qualifications		

Check all areas the adopter has formal training in or enough experience to administer.

1. _____ De-worming
2. _____ Vaccinations
3. _____ Pulling shoes
4. _____ Advice to farrier or vet regarding the needs of your horse.
5. _____ Wrapping legs
6. _____ Evaluating and treating problem hooves
7. _____ Preventing colic
8. _____ Treating colic
9. _____ Preventing founder
10. _____ Treating founder
11. _____ Preventing puncture wounds
12. _____ Treating puncture wounds
13. _____ Preventing abscesses, thrush, etc.
14. _____ Treating abscesses, thrush, etc.
15. _____ Preventing and treating rain rot
16. _____ Identifying lameness and traveling problems.
17. _____ Treating leg injuries and lameness
18. _____ Keeping weight on a horse
19. _____ Proper progression for putting weight on a skinny horse
20. _____ Working through health issues with horses
21. _____ Fitting equipment to different horses
22. _____ Building confidence in horses
23. _____ Longing a horse
24. _____ Determining jobs a horse would be good at
25. _____ Ground training horses
26. _____ Training horses for specific disciplines
27. _____ Training with young horses
28. _____ Transitional training for horses changing jobs. Ex. Race horses
29. _____ Working through issues with your horse
30. _____ Acclimating a horse to a new environment
31. _____ Handling mares and foals
32. _____ Handling stallions
33. _____ Imprinting foals
34. _____ Instructing riding or driving lessons
35. _____ Transporting horses
36. _____ Competitions

Adopter and the Adoption Horse

1. Is the adopter also the primary handler and rider? _____
2. Is the adopter the primary care giver? _____ If no, you will need to have the Boarding Facility Addendum filled out by the facility manager.
3. What is the weight of the heaviest rider for this horse? _____
4. What is the planned use of the animal, please be specific.

5. What characteristics are you looking for in a horse?

6. Please list all acceptable characteristics if the "perfect" horse is unavailable.

7. When you are away from home for an extended period of time, what arrangements do you have for the care of the horse?

8. Is everyone in your family committed to having this horse, committed to the work and finances involved in its care? _____
9. What is the maximum hours per day the horse will be worked? _____
10. How many hours per week will the horse be used? _____
11. What is the approximate number of hours you will spend with the horse daily?
Summer _____ Winter _____
12. Do you have a trainer? _____
13. If yes, what is the trainer's name? _____
14. What is the trainer's phone number? _____
15. How many horses do you currently own? _____
16. Why are you looking for a horse?

17. Will this horse be used as a school horse? _____
18. If so, what riding level will the students be? _____
19. Will any lessons include handicapped riders? _____

Equine Transportation

1. Will you provide your own transportation for this horse? _____
2. If yes, what type of horse trailer will you use? _____
3. What is the size, age and condition of this trailer?

4. Is the driver an experienced livestock hauler? _____
BSER can refuse any transportation you may provide and will deliver the horse for a pre-determined fee.

References. BSER will contact your references listed here. Please inform the listed references of this application. No relatives.

Vet name: _____

Phone number: _____

Address: _____

Farrier name: _____

Phone number: _____

Address: _____

Horse-related reference Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Address: _____

Section 2.

Answer these questions if the horse will be kept/boarded at your residence. If you are boarding this horse at a different location fill out Appendix C and return it with your application.

Your Facilities

1. What is the name of your farm/stable: _____
2. Write out directions to your farm from the nearest interstate in Massachusetts.

3. Do you rent or own this farm? _____ Number of years _____
4. How many acres of fenced flat clear cut pasture is used for equine turn out? _____
5. Describe your fence height, condition and construction material.

6. Is there a shelter located in the pasture available to this horse at all times? _____
7. If no, how many hours per day will the horse be in this area? _____
8. If yes, describe the size and condition of the shelter available to the horse.

9. How many animals will be sharing this shelter at one time? _____
10. Do you have a barn that will be used on a daily basis for this horse? _____
11. Is the barn and the pasture shelter one structure or different structures? _____
12. Will the adoptive horse have its own individual stall? _____
13. What are the dimensions of the stall? _____
14. What are the dimensions of the barn? Include ceiling height.

Additional Animals on This Property

1. Has anyone on your farm/stable ever been accused or convicted of inhumane treatment of animals?
2. If yes, explain. _____
3. How many horses do you have stabled on this property? _____
4. What other large animals live on this property. Type and number.

5. What is the maximum number of large animals you will have living on this property? _____
6. What is the use of each of your other horses? _____
7. How often do you use these horses? _____
8. How many hours per week do you spend with each of your horses? _____
9. When in turnout do you have any extremely Alpha horses? _____
10. When in turnout do you have any extremely submissive horses? _____
11. Explain how you handle this situation and how you will handle the adoptive horse in this situation.

12. Do you feed the horses in the pasture? _____
13. What is your procedure for feeding in the pasture?

14. What is the average number of hours per day the horse will be turned out? _____

Stabling Practices

1. Do all the horses share the same pasture? _____
2. Will all the horses be turned out together? _____
3. Do you turn out stallions or colts with other horses? _____
4. What is the maximum number of horses that will be turned out in this pasture at one time? _____
5. What is the size of this pasture? _____
6. Do you blanket horses? _____
7. If yes, under what circumstances? _____
8. Are your horses brought into the barn during winter nights, summer days and inclement weather? _____
9. Are there any busy roads bordering your facility? If yes, what steps have you taken to protect the horses? _____
10. Do you feed grain and hay on a daily basis? _____
11. How do you determine how much feed each horse gets? _____

12. Describe the type, name brand of concentrated feeds and type of hay including protein % you will provide. _____

13. Explain the watering system provided for each horse. _____

Section 3

Statements of Understanding

1. Do you understand that horses require daily exercise, regular worming and farrier care. Each horse requires at least one clear-cut acre of fenced, flat paddock/pasture. Each horse requires at least 20 gallons of fresh water per day and high quality, clean, dry, nutrient dense hay. Grain must be provided as needed.
2. Do you have the required facilities, the desire to have a life-long companion, the financial backing, the mental, physical, family stability and the time required to commit to the above tasks and everything required to keep a horse in good health?
3. Do you understand that the adoption requires an application fee of \$100, payable at the time of application and is non-refundable regardless of approval status?
4. Do you understand that horses live beyond 20 years and sometimes into their 40's and that this is a long-term commitment?
5. Do you understand as an adopter it is your responsibility to get to know your adoptive horse fully in order to protect it and to protect the people handling or riding it? It can take as much as 6 months for a horse to acclimate to a new environment and you must give the horse every opportunity to get to know you and its new environment before expecting it to perform for you.
6. Do you understand that BSER horses are rescue horses? Their backgrounds are questionable, their abilities are questionable and each horse should be thoroughly checked by a veterinarian who specializes in the area of discipline that you are planning to use the horse for? Do you understand BSER does not have the funds to fully evaluate each horse to determine training level and physical abilities?
7. I understand that BSER may visit this adoptive horse and request copies of care records including, coggins, vet records, farrier records, dental records, training records, illnesses and injuries. I agree to release these records upon request.
8. I understand that horses adopted from Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc. have no guarantee regarding training level, soundness, temperament, or general condition.
9. I understand that no horse from BSER can be bred at any time, under any circumstances. NO BREEDING is allowed.

10. As an adopter I assume full responsibility for any personal injury, property damage or death caused by an adopted animal in the adopter's care, and agree to hold harmless and indemnify Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc., all of its volunteers, all of its property owners, and all persons associated with the rescue program.

11. I understand it is my responsibility to know my limitations regarding time, money and riding ability and I will be truthful and forthright in my preference for an adoption horse.

12. I understand that the adoptive horse will be a part of my family and I can not pass it on to another care provider. I must notify BSER of any change in boarding stables for my adoptive horse. In the unlikely event that I can no longer keep this horse it must be returned to Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc. and I must assume all costs involved in this relocation.

13. I promise that this application is true and factual and I understand that any false statements can result in immediate removal of all the adoption horses from my facility and can also result in legal action against the me by the Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc and/or its legal representative. I have enclosed the \$100 application fee. I have read and understand the adoption contract for adopters and agree to abide by it. I understand that if BSER has any questions or discrepancies in my application I may need to provide further documented information.

Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc. Pledge

I pledge as a member of the Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc. that the care of my adoption horse and all other animals will be paramount and that I will always set an example for all people in the care of animals. I will not quit on my adoption horse when things get tough or difficult, and that if the horse should ever have to return to Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc. I will make sure it returns in better shape and condition than I received it. I understand the mission of Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc., to improve equine integrity, and I will do my part to uphold this mission.

Signature of Adopter _____

Date _____

Appendix A – Determining experience level

A beginner rider/handler is defined as any person who meets the criteria for one of the following:

1. A person who has not ridden at least 3 times a week for the past three years.
2. A person who has ridden only lesson or school horses, or horses at a trail riding company.
3. A person who cannot canter comfortably.
4. A person who cannot answer basic equine care questions.
5. A person who has not had formal riding training, or training in the handling or caring of horses.
6. A person who does not meet the criteria for an intermediate rider/handler.

An intermediate rider/handler is defined as a person who meets all of the following criteria:

1. A person who has ridden at least 3 times a week for the past 3 years.
2. A person who can answer basic equine care questions.
3. A person who has ridden other than lesson, school or trail horses.
4. A person who can canter comfortably.
5. A person who has had formal training in riding, handling or caring of horses.
6. A person who can ride through a buck, shy or spook and can execute the emergency dismount.
7. A person who does not meet the criteria for an advanced rider/handler.

An advanced rider/handler is defined as a person who meets all the following criteria:

1. A person who has ridden at least 3 times a week for the past 5 years.
2. A person who is experienced in daily equine care for the past 5 years.
3. A person who has successfully trained a horse.
4. A person who can solve a horse's training problem.
5. A person who has had formal training in riding, handling and caring for horses.
6. A person who can handle a horse in a difficult situation and can execute the emergency dismount.

Appendix B – Reference Checks

In order to expedite your application approval process, send this to your listed references to complete and return to BSER. It can be attached to an email and sent to info@BayStateEquineRescue.com or mailed to Bay State Equine Rescue, Inc. Application Committee, 415 Hunt Rd., Oakham, MA 01068

Reference check for _____ (adopters name)

Your name: _____ Phone #: _____

e-mail Address: _____

How long have you known the above named applicant? _____

In what capacity did you know this person? _____

Check all statements that apply to your relationship with the applicant.

_____ in the past year I have seen socially/professionally in a horse environment.

_____ have seen handle animals, feed, train, ride/drive, handle health care issues.

_____ Have seen applicant with animals on several occasions

_____ Consider the applicant a close friend.

_____ Consider the applicant a professional acquaintance

_____ Can attest to the emotional stability of the applicant. (Demonstrates a consistent, content, positive attitude.)

_____ Can attest to the personal stability of the applicant. (Has a home, steady job, family stability.)

_____ Can attest to the financial stability of the applicant. (Is able to financially provide the proper care for this horse.)

_____ Can attest to the safety and cleanliness of the equine facilities of the applicant.

_____ Would leave your animals in this persons care for long term.

_____ Feel certain this applicant would provide regular vet/farrier care for the equine.

_____ As a professional horse person, I believe this applicant has the understanding, training and desire to care for, train and provide an adopted horse a healthy, happy life.

_____ As a work reference, I can say the applicant is honest, stable and caring person who demonstrates love of animals.

Please use this space for additional comments regarding the applicant.

By signing this form, you attest that these statements are true and factual to the best of your ability and you are not related to the applicant.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Appendix C – Primary Handler Addendum

Answer these questions only if the primary handler is different from the adopter.
For example: a parent adopts a horse for a child under age 25.

1. Full name of primary handler: _____
2. Primary handlers age: _____
3. Height & weight of primary handler _____ wt. _____ ht.
4. How many years of equine handling/care experience does the primary handler have? _____
5. Address (if different from adopters address) Street: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
6. Number of years at residence: _____
7. Phone # _____ Alternate Phone # _____
8. E-mail address: _____
9. Social security number: _____
10. Drivers license number: _____ State: _____
11. Does the primary handler reside at any other address during the year? ____
12. If yes: Street: _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
13. Will the horse move with the primary handler? _____
14. If yes, full address of the horses boarding facility:
Stable Name: _____
Street Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
15. Is the primary handler classified as a beginner, intermediate or advanced horse handler/rider according to Appendix A of this application?

Appendix D – Boarding Facility

To be filled out and signed by the adopter and boarding facility manager/owner and the individual providing daily care to the horse.

If the horse is going to be boarded, how far is the stable from the applicants home?
_____ work? _____

Stable Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Owners Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Barn Managers Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Stable Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Directions to the stable from the nearest interstate or route:

How many horses live on this property? _____

What is the maximum number of horses allowed at this facility? _____

What is the use of these horses? _____

How many hours per day is a responsible person available at the stable? _____

Will this horse be provided water freely? _____

Explain the feeding and exercise program this horse will be provided with:

Will this horse have shelter? _____ Size of shelter: _____

Will this horse have an individual stall of its own? _____

If no, explain: _____

Under what circumstances will the horse have shelter? _____

Will this horse have turnout? _____ Explain the size of pasture and the number of horses in the space at one time: _____

Explain fence height and construction materials:

Are there any other animals kept at this facility? If yes, explain: _____

Barn/Stable Veterinarian

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Barn/Stable Farrier

Name: _____ Phone: _____

