



Equine Care Specialist/Trainer (Full-Time)

Help Give Horses Their Second Chance

The Kentucky Equine Adoption Center (KYEAC) is one of Kentucky's largest all-equine rescue and adoption organizations. Our mission is simple but powerful: **to give horses a second chance at a better life.**

We provide care, rehabilitation, retraining, and adoption services for horses who have been abused, neglected, surrendered, or otherwise find themselves in need of a new beginning. Every horse that comes through our gates has a story—and our team plays an important role in helping write the next chapter.

We are looking for an **experienced, professional horse trainer** who is passionate about horses, enjoys working as part of a team, and wants to use their skills to make a meaningful difference in the lives of horses and the people who adopt them.

If you are an experienced trainer who takes pride in developing horses, understands that exceptional horsemanship begins with exceptional care, and enjoys seeing a horse gain confidence and discover a new purpose, **we'd love to hear from you.**

The Opportunity

The Equine Care Specialist/Trainer plays a vital role in the day-to-day care, training, rehabilitation, and preparation of horses for adoption at KYEAC.

Working under the direction of the Barn Manager, this position will train and retrain horses to help each one reach his or her individual potential—whether that means becoming a well-mannered companion or developing into a safe, enjoyable, and highly rideable horse.

This is a **hands-on position**. Approximately 50% of the job is dedicated to daily horse care and 50% to training.

This is a professional trainer position. Successful candidates must currently be working as a horse trainer in the equine industry and have current, hands-on professional training experience. This is not an entry-level training position.

Just as importantly, the successful candidate must be an excellent horseman or horsewoman who understands that **close observation and good horse care are fundamental to good training.** The ability to recognize when something is not right with a horse—and respond appropriately—is critically important.

What You'll Do

Horse Care & Wellness

- Provide daily, hands-on care for the horses at KYEAC, including feeding, cleaning, medicating, and assisting veterinarians and farriers.
- Carefully observe horses throughout the day and recognize subtle changes in behavior, attitude, appetite, movement, or appearance.
- **Identify signs of illness, injury, pain, lameness, or other health concerns and respond appropriately.**
- **Use a strong working knowledge of basic equine first aid and treatment to address common horse health issues and recognize when veterinary attention is needed.**
- Communicate health or behavioral concerns promptly to the Barn Manager and appropriate staff.
- Assist during equine emergencies and disaster situations as directed by the Barn Manager.

Training & Rehabilitation

- Train and retrain horses according to individual needs, abilities, and adoption goals.

- Follow training schedules established by the Barn Manager, with an emphasis on natural horsemanship.
- Help horses develop the skills, confidence, manners, and rideability needed to transition successfully into adoptive homes.
- Maintain accurate training notes and document each horse's progress.
- Ride and demonstrate horses for prospective adopters when requested.
- Work collaboratively with the team to evaluate horses and help determine appropriate adoption matches.

Education & Public Engagement

- Assist with educational programs, special events, open houses, and other KYEAC activities.
- Conduct simple presentations for students and assist with public tours.
- Help educate adopters, volunteers, and visitors about responsible horse care, training, and horsemanship.
- Represent KYEAC professionally and positively in interactions with adopters, volunteers, donors, visitors, and the public.

Teamwork & Daily Operations

- Work collaboratively with the Barn Manager and other members of the KYEAC team.
- Work closely and positively with volunteers.
- Contribute to a safe, clean, organized, and positive working environment.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Because our horses need care every day, weekends and holidays are an expected part of this position. Flexibility and a willingness to work weekends and holidays are essential.

What We're Looking For

Required Qualifications

- **Currently working professionally as a horse trainer in the equine industry.**
- **Demonstrated professional horse-training experience, with an emphasis on natural horsemanship.**
- Strong hands-on experience handling, training, riding, and caring for horses.
- **Strong equine health knowledge and the ability to recognize subtle signs that a horse may be sick, injured, painful, lame, or otherwise not feeling well.**
- **Working knowledge of basic equine first aid and treatment. The ability to identify health concerns, provide appropriate basic care, and recognize when veterinary intervention is necessary is critically important to this position.**
- Ability to safely handle horses with a variety of backgrounds, personalities, training levels, and needs.
- Physical ability to perform the manual and demanding work required to care for horses.
- Ability to work independently while also being a positive and collaborative member of a team.
- Ability to work effectively with volunteers.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Dependability, punctuality, and a strong work ethic.
- A positive attitude and willingness to learn and contribute.
- **Ability and willingness to work weekends and holidays.**
- Commitment to representing KYEAC professionally and supporting its mission.

Why Work at KYEAC?

At KYEAC, you won't simply be training horses—you'll be helping prepare them for the next chapter of their lives. Every ride, every training session, every health observation, and every interaction with a horse contributes to the ultimate goal: **finding the right horse the right home.**

This is an opportunity to put your professional training skills to work in a mission-driven environment where the results are incredibly rewarding. You'll be part of a team that is committed to excellent horse care, thoughtful rehabilitation, quality training, and successful adoptions.

Compensation & Benefits

- Competitive pay
- Opportunities for professional growth
- Holiday pay
- Sick pay
- Workers' compensation
- A positive, team-oriented work environment
- Unlimited snacks and cold drinks
- Opportunities to participate in KYEAC educational programs, events, and special activities

If you are an experienced professional trainer who is passionate about horses, believes in second chances, and wants your work to have a meaningful impact, we encourage you to apply. Cover letter and resume should be emailed to info@kyeac.org, attention: Carrie Wood, Executive Director. Please include at least two references, one of which should be from the equine industry.