



## ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

**Minimum Age:** Therapeutic Riding: 4 years old unless recommended\* to begin sooner by a medical professional. (\* Recommendation letter from physician is required)  
Hippotherapy: 2 years old unless recommended to begin sooner by a medical professional.

**There is no maximum age limit.**

**Weight Maximums:** Due to the recommendations from our veterinarian we have the following weight restrictions for riders:

Under 5' tall:	150 lbs. maximum
5'0" – 5'6"	180 lbs. maximum
5'7" – 6'0"	210 lbs. maximum
6'1" – 6'5"	250 lbs. maximum

**Postural Control:** Riders over 80 pounds must be able to maintain a sitting position; at least by holding on with one hand.

### **Fee Schedule and Policies:**

There are three Sessions (blocks of lessons) per year: Fall, Spring, and Summer. Fall and Spring sessions are ten weeks long with an additional week of make-up for classes that are cancelled due to inclement weather and the Summer session is six weeks long in the mornings and evenings.

	<b>Spring &amp; Fall Sessions (10 Lessons)</b>	<b>Summer Session (6 Lessons)</b>
Therapeutic Riding – Group Lessons:	\$450.00 per session	\$270.00 per session
Therapeutic Riding – Private Lessons:	\$600.00 per session	\$360.00 per session
Hippotherapy (not available at this time):	TBD	
Initial Registration Fee:	\$35 (One Time Fee for First Time ManeGait Riders)	
<b><i>If riders are added to the schedule after the session has begun, the fee will be pro-rated. Payment balances must be received in full prior to your rider's first lesson.</i></b>		

### **Financial Assistance:**

It is ManeGait's philosophy to accept riders in the program regardless of financial means. Financial assistance up to 75% of the session fee is available for those who feel they can not pay the full fee. Please download a Financial Assistance Application Form or call the ManeGait office at 469-742-9611 and request one.

### **New Rider Assessments:**

All riders new to ManeGait must have an assessment before being scheduled in a lesson spot. Once your application has been processed, you will be called to schedule an assessment.

## **Scheduling:**

Students will be scheduled as appropriate lesson spots become available. Those currently riding at ManeGait will be given first priority when scheduling. Others will be scheduled on a first come first serve basis. If we are unable to schedule your rider, he/she will be put on a waiting list. As a suitable spot opens up, you will be contacted.

## **Absences:**

- 🐾 If your rider has to miss class, please contact ManeGait at 469-742-9611 so we can avoid having the horse tacked up unnecessarily.
- 🐾 For **group** classes there are no make-ups or refunds for non weather related absences.
- 🐾 For **private** lessons missed, make-ups may be scheduled depending on volunteer, arena, horse and instructor availability

## **Class Cancellations:**

- 🐾 Since we don't have a covered arena and are weather dependent, classes may be cancelled due to inclement weather. When uncertain if your class will be held, check the ManeGait website ([www.manegait.org](http://www.manegait.org) under *Weather Update* on the Home Page) or call ManeGait *no earlier than two hours prior to class*.
- 🐾 Classes that are cancelled by ManeGait due to weather will be tracked and at the end of each session, ManeGait will hold 1-2 weeks of make-up classes for classes that are missed due to cancellation.
- 🐾 In the event that ManeGait has to cancel more than two classes during a session, the student has the following options for their remaining fees:
  - ♦ Credit toward the following session
  - ♦ Donating the amount to the Rider Financial Assistance Fund
  - ♦ Receiving a refund for the balance.
- 🐾 Financial assistance will automatically be credited back to the Rider Financial Assistance Fund.

*Classes that students miss for reasons other than weather will not be credited back nor refunded.*

## **Attire and Equipment:**

- 🐾 Appropriate clothes for riding are long pants and hard soled boots with a low heel. Since we use safety stirrups on all of the English and most of the western saddles, sneakers are permissible. Dress for comfort and according to the weather. Undergarments that provide adequate support and comfort are necessary. Wear close-fitting clothing for safety as well as comfort. Loose or baggy clothing can get caught and tangled in equipment
- 🐾 No dangling jewelry is permitted.
- 🐾 All riders are required to wear an ASTM/SEI approved Equestrian Helmet. If you don't have your own helmet, ManeGait will provide you with one. Should you choose to purchase your own, below is a list of tack shops that carry approved helmets.
- 🐾 Riders may also bring their own English stirrups and stirrup leathers providing the stirrups are safety stirrups and in good condition. Having your own stirrups helps save time in the adjustment of stirrups.

## **Volunteers:**

ManeGait's instructors are assisted by an incredible team of volunteers. They groom and tack the horses, assist with mounting and dismounting and, when needed, help the riders during class. Many volunteers help in other aspects of the organization, from facility maintenance, to office work, to fund-raising. Please make an effort to show your appreciation to our volunteers who are the lifeblood of ManeGait.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please have them contact the ManeGait Volunteer Coordinator at 469-742-9611. Volunteer registration forms are available on our website at [www.manegait.org](http://www.manegait.org). All potential volunteers must attend a one day volunteer training.