

Application to the UVM Horse Barn

This application is due April 1st

*As a rough guide, most barn members spend about two hours a day at the barn (including cleaning their stall, doing assigned chores, doing 3-4 hours of “horse watch” a week and riding), as well as attending weekly barn meetings, weekly “night checks” with a partner, 2-3 “weekend watches” per semester, and participate in fall and spring barn events. Barn members will complete 7 days of vacation watch during the academic year; vacation watch days include Thanksgiving, winter and spring breaks. Additionally, barn members are **required** to sign up for ASCI 021, “Horse Barn Cooperative,” each semester that their horse is in the barn. Barn members meet weekly on Monday evenings to discuss current events in the barn and other need-to-know issues; we also meet fortnightly after barn meeting as a class to discuss practical equine applications. We expect co-op members to rearrange their academic schedule to make room for meetings and co-op class (Monday 4:45 – 6:00 pm). These meetings are fundamental to assuring good communication in the barn. We understand that your academic schedule and family emergencies are a priority over your duties as a barn member. However, if you choose to be a part of the cooperative, your barn duties take priority over jobs. Please honestly evaluate this time commitment before applying to the horse barn.*

Along with this application, please include a written essay (maximum 2 pages) telling the UVM Horse Barn students and advisors how you and your horse will make a contribution to the cooperative and what the term “cooperative barn” means to you. Please provide us with an example of when you took on a large responsibility and how you handled it.

As part of your application process, it is highly recommended that you contact a member of the UVM Horse Barn Executive Committee and arrange to spend one day either during the week or over a weekend working with that member at the UVM Horse Barn before April 1st. Please call either 802-862-2151 or 802-656-0144 to get contact details for an Executive Committee member. Prior to working in the barn, you or a parent (if you are under 18 years) must sign a risk release form that is found at the end of this application.

With the submission of this application you are agreeing to abide by the terms outlined in the UVM Horse Barn Constitution Horse Barn Facts. Please read this material online at <http://asci.uvm.edu/horsebarn/?Page=constitution.html>.

If you would prefer, this application may be submitted online at:
<http://asci.uvm.edu/horsebarn/?Page=applicationform.html>

Name: _____

Address where you can be reached over the summer:

Email Address: _____

Phone Number (cell): _____

Phone Number (home): _____

Anticipated UVM graduation year: _____

College at UVM: _____

Major: _____

Do you currently have a GPA of 2.0 or above? Yes / No

Horse's Name: _____

Breed: _____

Sex: _____

Due to IACUC (Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee) regulations, we cannot allow horses weighing more than 1333lb to live in our 10x12ft stalls. Generally this means we do not allow horses larger than 16.3hh into our stalls. We will weight tape your horse upon arrival if there is any doubt about their size.

Height (in hands): _____

Weight (in pounds): _____

Age: _____

Please read online:

- [Guidelines for Acceptance](#)
- [Daily Scenarios for Horse Barn Members](#)
- [Barn Member Responsibilities](#)
- [Barn Member Expectations](#)
- [Horse Barn Facilities](#)
- [Horse Barn Fact Sheet](#)
- [Horse Barn Constitution](#)
- [Horse Barn Code of Conduct](#)

Tips for filling out this application:

Be honest, we understand no horse is perfect

Be thorough, the more information the better

Avoid yes or no answers when possible

General Information

Are you willing to be interviewed by the current UVM Horse Barn Executive Committee, either by phone or in person if you live nearby?

Are you willing to come for a work day? If so, please contact us to schedule.

How long have you owned/leased your horse? If you lease your horse, please note that we require a written copy of your lease.

Please list the responsibilities you currently have or have had in caring for your horse. (Examples would be: feeding, mucking stalls, grooming, etc.)

Please list any experiences you currently have or have had in caring for other people's horses.

What has been your present or past involvement in horse-related clubs or activities?

Have you had any present or past involvement with any UVM equine activities (equitation team, dressage team, equitation classes, Equus, etc.)?

Because the UVM Horse Barn is a cooperative environment, all barn members are required to share the responsibilities. Would you be willing to and be comfortable with:

- Leading and working with horses of all sizes (sizes range from 14 to 17 hands)?
- 3 hours of horse watch per week?
- Participating in a 30-minute weekly night check with a partner sometime between 9-11 pm to ensure the safety of the horses?
- 2-3 events per semester, usually on the weekends?
- 2-3 weekend watches per semester, consisting of 4 hours of horse watch either on Saturdays or Sundays?
- Covering a total of 7 days of horse watch with a partner over the vacation periods (Thanksgiving, winter and spring break) regardless of whether or not you decide to bring your horse home for breaks? Please note that we can help arrange barn member housing during school holidays.
- Being completely responsible for your horse, including daily stall cleaning and scheduling of farrier and veterinarian?
- Other situations involved in caring for your horse and others?

Barn Situation

What type and size of stall does your horse live in?

Is your horse currently turned out in a pasture or a paddock? Please give details on the size and condition of your turnout situation.

What type of weather conditions does your horse go out in?

What type of fencing is used? Are you aware that UVM uses three-strand electric rope fencing?

How many hours a day does your horse spend in the pasture?

Our horses are turned out in groups of two to four horses per pasture. Is your horse a candidate for a pasture group of four? Has your horse been turned out in large groups before?

Is your horse currently turned out in a group situation? Would your horse be comfortable in a $\frac{3}{4}$ acre pasture with up to three other horses?

Is your horse dominant, passive, or neutral in a group turnout situation? Does your horse like to play with others? Does your horse become anxious during turnout / bring in? Please describe this in detail.

Describe your horse's behavior when ridden with other horses in an enclosed arena.

Behavior

Can your horse be safely lead to and from pastures by other barn members, animal science students, and work study students? Keep in mind that many of the people that will be handling your horse may not be very experienced with horses.

Does your horse ever tear away when let loose in the pasture? If so, what do you do to correct this?

Do you turn your horse out to pasture with a halter on? Has your horse ever been difficult to catch? If so, what do you do to correct this?

Does your horse have any of these vices? If so please check **all** that apply.
(Please be honest. Believe us, we realize that no horse is perfect.)

- Cribbing
- Biting
- Kicking in stall
- Kicking at other horses
- Kicking at people
- Pawing
- Weaving
- Stall walking
- Rearing
- Striking
- Charging

If you have checked any vices, explain the severity of the vice and the steps you have taken to correct this issue.

Does your horse have any other vices or habits that were not listed? Please include anything that you think other barn members need to be aware of, e.g. horse will barge out of stall past handler, horse opens gates, horse gets cast.

How does your horse behave on the cross ties? Will your horse cross tie in the aisle and stand quietly? Paw while on the cross ties? Stand on the cross ties for the vet and farrier? Allow other horses to walk past while he or she is on the cross ties? Attempt to break the cross ties if he or she is frightened? Please explain his or her behavior.

How does your horse behave during feeding time? (i.e., does he or she suddenly develop any door-kicking, floor-pawing, and/or people-biting tendencies?)

Is your horse safe to open the door and walk into the stall to feed and water?

Will your horse be safe around the tractors, vehicles, and cows that are all a part of UVM's working farm environment?

Our farm is located between interstate 89 and another frequently traveled road. Explain your horse's behavior with excessive traffic and vehicle noise.

Many of the guests and visitors to the farm are not familiar with how to behave safely around horses. How will you and your horse react to these guests and visitors, as well as the many small children that visit the farm?

Health

We require that all horses be de-wormed at least twice a year depending on their overall parasite load, which is determined with a fecal egg count on your horse's arrival. What is your current de-worming program?

Our de-worming program is based upon recommendations from Vermont Large Animal Clinic. Are you willing to switch to our program? If no, please explain.

The barn has a vaccination clinic in the spring and fall. Will you be willing to accept and follow these recommendations? If not, please explain.

No Yes

___ ___ A required vaccination for this barn is an annual rabies shot, as well as an annual negative Coggins test.

___ ___ Recommended inoculations for this area are Tetanus, Equine Influenza, Equine Rhinopneumonitis, West Nile Virus, Potomac Horse Fever and Eastern/Western Encephalomyelitis.

If no, please explain.

Because this farm is a research and educational facility, all medical treatments and illnesses must be reported to the Horse Barn Executive Committee, Faculty Advisor and the University Veterinarian. Will you be willing to disclose this information?

Does your horse currently have any chronic medical problems? Is he or she undergoing any treatments or medication?

Does your horse have a history of colic?

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true, correct, and complete. I have read and submit to the terms listed in the UVM Horse Barn Constitution.

Applicant's name (please print):

Applicant's signature: _____

Parent's signature (if applicant is under 18):

Owner's signature (if different from applicant or parent):

Date: _____

Please include with this application:

- **Proof of current (within one year) rabies and a negative Coggins test-a photocopy of these is acceptable.**
- **A full-bodied color picture of your horse**
- **At least two letters of recommendation (one for you and one for your horse)-- these must be from two different sources and not from a close relative**
- **One to two page written essay addressing the following questions:**
 - **What does the term "co-operative barn" mean to you?**
 - **A situation in which you took on a big responsibility and how you managed that responsibility**
- **Optional- a short (3-5 min) video of your horse**

Please return these to:

Chrissy Rohan, M.Ed.
c/o Ellen A. Hardacre Equine Facility
206 Terrill
570 Main Street
Burlington, VT 05405

Application Information

- This application is due by April 1st
- Interviews will take place before April 15th
- You may organize to spend a day working at the barn any time before April 1st
- You will be notified of your acceptance status by May 1st
- Applications received after April 1st are late, and will be considered for the waitlist

Please feel free to call the barn at any time if you have any questions.

UVM Horse Barn: (802) 656-7511 →from Sept-May only

UVM Farm: (802) 862-2151 →year-round (this number has an answering machine)

Thank you for applying!

University of Vermont
Risk Release Form

I understand that all types of animals may react unpredictably to certain stimuli and situations and that there are inherent dangers in being on or around animals.

I agree that being in the presence of all animals at the UVM Farm or the Morgan Horse Farm (hereafter referred to as the MHF) is at my own risk and that I will hold harmless from any liability the University of Vermont and any individual associated in any way with the University of Vermont Farm or the MHF.

I hereby assume all risk of loss of life or injury arising out of or in any way connected to my presence at the UVM Farm and the surrounding facilities, or the MHF. I hereby waive any claims, which I have now or in the future against the University of Vermont.

I hereby certify that I have read and understand the foregoing, and that I agree to all these terms. I also understand that there is a separate helmet policy that I must read and follow.

Name (please print)

School Address

Phone

Home Address

Signature

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian (under 18)

Date

Warning

Under Vermont Law, an equine activity sponsor is not liable for injury to, or death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities that are obvious and necessary, pursuant to 12 V.S. A. 1039