

Parent & Student FAQ

Student-Led Equine & Sanctuary Program

Who is this program for?

This program is designed for responsible students who want structured, real-world experience with horses and farm animal care in a supervised environment.

We offer:

- Two daytime days weekly for homeschool students
- One weekly day for public school students (weekend)

Students should be willing to follow directions, respect safety rules, and participate as part of a team.

What will students actually do?

Students participate in supervised, age-appropriate farm routines and rotate through structured roles such as:

- barn and stall care support
- water and feed preparation assistance
- grooming basics
- supply organization and property upkeep tasks
- animal care checklists and logs
- team responsibility roles (lead, supplies, care logs, etc.)

This is a working learning program and not casual animal interaction time.

Does my child need horse experience?

No. Beginners are welcome.

Students receive:

- Orientation
- safety instruction
- task training
- supervision appropriate to experience level

Students must be coachable and able to follow directions around animals.

What safety measures are in place?

Safety is the foundation of the program.

Measures include:

- required orientation before participation
- clear rules and barn boundaries
- supervised task assignments
- structured routines and check-in/check-out
- required closed-toe footwear
- restricted access to certain areas/animals
- progressive responsibility based on skill

As students advance, optional youth “Safety Steward” certifications may be offered, including simple weekly checks such as ensuring safety signage remains visible and legible.

What age range can participate?

Students ages 13-17 may apply.

Younger students must demonstrate the maturity to follow instructions and safety rules consistently.

Is this a riding program?

Yes, some riding may be integrated into the program, but it is not a core focus.

This program focuses more on:

- animal care
- barn management basics
- responsibility and teamwork
- safe horse handling foundations

Riding is a regular student program activities, but should not be expected daily

Is this volunteering or paid?

This is an educational, student-development program. Students gain supervised hands-on experience, leadership skills, and animal-care training. This is a structured learning/volunteer program. Advanced students may qualify for increased responsibility roles over time.

How often do students attend?

Students attend one-two designated weekly day based on enrollment:

Homeschool: choose one of two (or both) daytime days

Public school: one weekly student day

Consistency is important for safety and team function.

What is the enrollment process?

To join, families complete:

1. Interest/application form
2. Brief meet-and-greet
3. Orientation + safety walkthrough
4. Schedule selection
5. Agreement forms

Spots are limited to maintain supervision quality.

What should students wear?

Required:

- closed-toe shoes (sturdy)
- comfortable clothes suitable for farm work
- hair tied back if long

Recommended:

- boots or work shoes
- weather-appropriate layers
- water bottle

No sandals or loose footwear permitted.

What if my child is nervous around horses?

That's okay.

Students start with observation, low-risk tasks, and gradual exposure

Confidence builds naturally with safe, guided interaction.

Can parents stay during sessions?

No. Students participate independently after orientation to support focus, safety, and group structure.

Parents may attend initial orientation or scheduled visits.

What if my child cannot follow safety rules?

Safety compliance is required.

If a student struggles to follow instructions or boundaries:

- coaching and reminders are provided
- responsibilities may be reduced
- participation may be paused if safety risk continues

This protects both students and animals.

Are there animals other than horses?

Yes. The program may include exposure to other sanctuary animals depending on needs and safety considerations. Interaction is always supervised and task-based.

How do I apply or ask questions?**Contact us:**

Email: LUNAFarmandSanctuary@gmail.com

Program inquiry form is on our website

Social: LUNAFarmandSanctuary on FB, Tiktok, Instagram and Youtube

We're happy to help determine if the program is a good fit for your student.