

Enter the Horse Workforce

WANT A CAREER WORKING WITH HORSES? THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX WITH THESE JOBS—AND THE SCHOOLS TO HELP GET YOU THERE.

If you want to spend your working life in the equine or ranching industry, specialized education can be helpful. Both classroom and hands-on experiences are key to getting a foundational level of knowledge before stepping into the workforce. If you're curious about what kinds of jobs are available in the horse world, we've listed just 25 of the most well-known careers below. If you're looking for a ranching or equine educational course or degree, we've also highlighted several that can help you start your career journey.

Twenty-Five Popular Horse Jobs:

1. Guest ranch host: Welcomes visitors to an equine vacation destination and ensures their experience is smooth and enjoyable.

2. X-ray technician: A medical position specializing in taking equine radiographs.

3. Riding instructor: Gives students guidance on horsemanship techniques and proper horse care.

4. Photographer: A professional photographer specializing in capturing images of horses or equine events.

5. Author: A writer specializing in creating books geared toward horse enthusiasts to either inform or entertain.

6. Massage therapist: A professional skilled in aiding equine health and wellness with massage techniques.

7. Association youth director: Connects children and teens with an equine enthusiast community through events and other campaigns.

8. Farrier: A farrier cares for equine hooves by assessing, trimming, shoeing and doing other maintenance.

9. Marketing director: Marketing is a communications career focused on promoting horse associations, businesses or events.

10. Veterinary technician: Works directly with an equine veterinarian, providing skilled assistance in handling the horse during procedures, examinations and follow-up care.

11. Farm manager: Responsible for running a farm or ranch operation, including care of fields, hay, livestock and horses.

12. Event coordinator: Produces equine events, rodeos, clinics and other activities.

13. Nutritionist: Works with feed companies or training programs to improve the diet offered to horses.

14. Mounted police officer: Police officer working in a specialty unit riding horses to deter crime or provide crowd control.

15. Sales representative: A sales position focused on equine products, feed, advertising, pharmaceuticals or insurance policies.

16. Geneticist: A scientist that specializes in the study of equine genetics.

17. Auctioneer: Plays an integral part in the equine sale process.

18. Horse show judge: Evaluates horses in competition against breed or association standards.

19. Equine journalist: A communications expert covering topics that affect the horse world for print, web, social media or other mediums.

20. Extension agent: Offers science-based information to the public and horse owners to help them care for their animals.

21. Stallion/breeding manager: An expert on safely and successfully breeding horses and caring for mares and stallions at every step of the reproductive process.

22. Veterinarian: A licensed animal medical professional specializing in equine health care.

23. Association executive director: Leads the direction and operation of equine-focused organizations.

24. Trainer: A horse trainer is skilled at starting, training and showing horses, and some trainers also coach riders.

25. Cowboy: Helps with horseback ranching operations, including gathering, doctoring, feeding and managing cattle, and not excluding the repair of fences and equipment.

Graham School For Livestock Men and Women

GARNETT, KANSAS

For 113 years, Graham School for Livestock Men and Women has provided hands-on experience and education on managing cattle to ranchers, future ranchers, dairymen and veterinary students. Once a month, the school's five-day program teaches through classroom sessions and on-the-ranch learning with animals. Topics include pregnancy testing, artificial insemination, ultrasound, calf delivery, vaccinating and more.

grahamschoolforcattlemen.com



University of Montana Western

DILLON, MONTANA

University of Montana Western equine studies students can pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in natural horsemanship, with option areas in management, science, psychology and instruction. UMW also offers an Associate of Applied Science degree in natural horsemanship or equine studies. UMW equine studies courses are offered in a block schedule: one course at a time for three hours a day, for 18 days. A sales prep course is also available.

umwestern.edu/departments/equine-studies



TCU Ranch Management

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Texas Christian University's Ranch Management Program teaches students to manage a wide range of resources anywhere in the world on an economic and ecological basis. Focused on the business of ranching and beef cattle production, concepts taught can easily be applied to the horse industry. Graduates have gone on to careers in ranch management, ag lending, natural resource management, ag real estate and ag pharmaceuticals.

ranch.tcu.edu



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Feather River College

QUINCY, CALIFORNIA

Offering an equine and ranch management bachelor's degree, an equine studies associate degree and certificates in horse training, ranch skills, pack skills and rodeo techniques, Feather River College prepares students for a variety of careers in the equine world. Students can be involved at all levels of young horse development, from foaling broodmares to halter breaking weanlings, groundwork with yearlings, starting 2-year-olds under saddle and sale prep. FRC also has a ranch versatility show team and a rodeo team.

frc.edu

Wyoming School of Horseshoeing

CHEYENNE, WYOMING

Located on a working bison ranch, Wyoming School of Horseshoeing instructors teach students the horseshoeing trade, as well as how to conduct and run their businesses successfully. Choose from two-, four- and eight-week full-time courses. During down times, students can take a train ride, go on a trail ride or just take in the views. Courses include food and lodging.

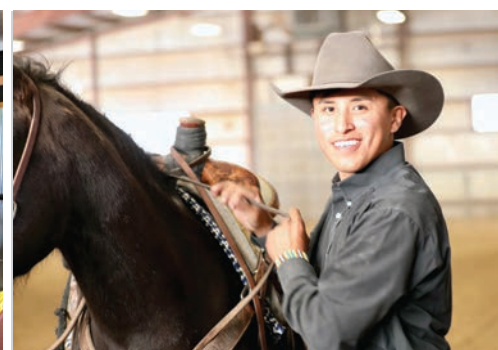
wyomingschoolofhorseshoeing.com

Lamar Community College

LAMAR, COLORADO

Lamar Community College is nationally recognized for associate degrees in equine business management and horse training and management. Students ride every day and take courses including equine anatomy, reproduction, sales and management. Students' last semester is a full-time internship. Graduates often pursue careers in cow horse, reining, roping and barrel training; equine veterinary care; rehabilitation; nutrition; reproduction; and instruction. The college has a successful rodeo team.

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RANCH MANAGEMENT

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"YOU CAN HAVE
GOOD TEACHERS,
GOOD WORK ETHIC
AND BE A STUDENT
OF [HORSEMANSHIP],
AND IT'S STILL GOING
TO BE HARD AND
TAKE YOUR LIFETIME.
BUT IF YOU LIKE
WHAT YOU'RE DOING,
WHO CARES HOW
LONG IT TAKES?
IT DOESN'T MATTER
IF YOU LIKE IT."

—BUCK BRANNAMAN



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**STUDY NATURAL
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AT A
TIME**



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