



MHC / METS Internship Program

The Maryland Horse Council (MHC) is pleased to offer a new internship program for students interested in broadening their equine experiences and making a tangible impact on the welfare of all horses in the State of Maryland. Internships are available in the fall, spring, and summer, and are open to rising high school seniors and college students. Interns select from one of three tracks to gain practical experience in topics of interest, have flexible schedule options, and can earn college credit, all while participating in a one-of-a-kind industry-based initiative that will be a national model for equine transition and welfare.

The Maryland Equine Transition Service

The Maryland Equine Transition Service (METS) is a statewide equine safety net initiative of the Maryland Horse Council that provides safe alternatives for horses needing homes by helping owners identify and select the best transition options for their horses.



Horses in need of transition come in every shape, size, breed, color, age, training level, and temperament. METS provides individualized services for these horses, including equine assessment, marketing assistance, end-of-life support, and facilitating the transition of horses to new homes. The program is unique because it works with a wide network of industry organizations and professionals to source the best options – from retraining to retirement – for these horses because no horse in Maryland should ever be at-risk of entering the slaughter pipeline.

To learn more about METS, visit <http://mdequinetranistion.org>.

Internship Details

- Fall or Spring:** 14 weeks [10 hours/week]
For credit and non-credit options available
Unpaid
- Summer:** 8 weeks [30 hours /week] – no credit
\$800 stipend
- Location:** The MHC / METS offices are located in Lisbon, Maryland. Fall/Spring interns will spend half day a week at the office and half day in the field. The remaining hours can be fulfilled remotely. Summer interns are expected to spend two days each week at the office and two days in the field. Interns must have transportation to and from the office, but can carpool with staff/volunteers to field-based assignments.
- Tracks:** Public Education
Program Management
Advocacy (spring only)

Requirements: Enrolled in high school (rising senior) or college*
At least 17 years of age when internship begins**
Horse handling experience
Desire to promote the horse industry
Excellent oral and written communication skills
Access to transportation
Interest in one of three tracks

* *Students in an equine-related program will be given priority*
***Applicants under 18 require a parent's signature*

Benefits: Earn college credit where available
\$800 stipend for summer session
METS T-shirt
Free 1-year youth or individual membership in the MHC
3 tracks to choose from
Mentoring by equine and management professionals
Network with MHC leadership
On-site and telecommuting options
Decrease the chance of MD horses becoming at-risk

Responsibilities:

Responsibilities of interns include, but are not limited to:

1. Assisting with general health and behavioral assessments of horses
2. Maintaining accurate records on horses, placement opportunities, and follow up
3. Creating ads/descriptions to market horses in print and online
4. Researching and creating materials related to equine care, welfare, or advocacy
5. Assisting with outreach or program planning tasks as needed
6. Following the highest standards of professionalism and confidentiality

Interns will report to the MHC Executive Director and work closely with the METS Director on field-based and in-office assignments.

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this internship, students can expect to meet the following learning objectives:

ALL Tracks:

1. Describe the equine welfare programs and services available to Maryland horses and owners, including sponsor organizations, purposes, eligibility, funding mechanisms, and reported outcomes.

2. Assess horses around the state using standard criteria to determine what transition options might be best for each individual horse.
3. Explain why equine welfare is a concern in Maryland, and nationwide, referencing credible data and resources.
4. Research and write a brief article to be disseminated by the MHC.
5. Develop confidence and skills to discuss the equine life cycle with constituents in a variety of settings.
6. Evaluate one component of METS and make recommendations to improve outcomes.

In addition to the objectives listed above, interns will also meet the following based on the track selected:

Track #1: Public Education

ED1. Design enduring educational materials on a topic selected jointly by the intern and METS staff. Examples include a print or electronic publication, training session, research article, video presentation, etc.

Track #2: Program Management

PM1. Collect and analyze relevant data, and write an evaluation report for MHC/METS stakeholders

PM2. Identify and evaluate potential revenue sources for a non-profit equine program, overseeing implementation of one marketing or fundraising strategy.

Track #3: Advocacy (Spring only)

AD1. Review and summarize statewide bills that may impact the horse industry.

AD2. Participate in at least one grassroots advocacy effort for an area of equine-related legislative interest.

AD3. Research and analyze data to help support equine-related legislative initiatives.

Application Process

Submit the MHC/METS Internship Application and two (2) letters of recommendation by the appropriate deadline. Selected applicants will be invited for an interview.

Deadline Dates:

	Application Due	Notification By
Fall 2018:	August 1	August 20
Spring 2019:	October 15	November 15
Summer 2019:	April 15	May 15