



CSS EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

BUILDING CHARACTER, SKILLS, AND LEADERSHIP – ONE RIDE AT A TIME

APPLICATION PACKAGE

- Please complete the following pages in full.
- Return to Mrs. Broekhuizen (room 3169) or the CSS office, before the end of course selection, in order to be considered for the program.

**Would you like to
earn graduation
credit while also
learning to ride?**

**Do you want to
spend course time
outside?
(...rain or shine!)**

**Do you prefer to
learn in a hands-on,
and personalized
manner?**

**Are you considering
a career with
horses or in
environmental
sciences?**

**CHILLIWACK
SECONDARY SCHOOL**

46363 Yale Rd. East
Chilliwack, BC V2P 2P8

css.sd33.bc.ca/equestrian-program
604-795-7295 (ext.3169)



Dear Applicant,

This program is for students entering grades 10, 11, or 12 and consists of 3 courses: **Equine Studies 10**, **Environmental Science 11**, and **Physical and Health Education 10 (or Active Living 11 or 12, for older students)**. We provide students with the opportunity to:

1. Connect to our community's important agricultural roots, by gaining competence and confidence within the complex and rewarding relationship that exists between a rider and a working horse. This will be facilitated by skilled professionals from both the school and the barn.
2. Connect to the local environment, by doing applied environmental science fieldwork.
3. Get your PHE 10 (or AL 11/12) credit by counting your horseback riding time, along with the other physical activities you are already doing in your week (dance, sports teams, hiking, walking your dog, etc.)
4. Provide students with the opportunity to earn between 12-14 credits towards graduation!

Students will also benefit from learning in an applied and decidedly low-tech and low-stress outdoor environment during class time. We encourage personal wellness, practice goal setting, gain exposure/experience to equestrian sports, and reflect on our learning in meaningful ways. *(We also spend time on campus at CSS, where students will have access to technology for various assignments.)*

Note that **Equine Studies 10** is an introductory to intermediate level course that will allow students to gain (or further) their knowledge in all areas of horsemanship, in a personalized way, depending on their initial level when entering the course. Along with covering the basics of riding, students will further develop their skills under the instruction of professional horse trainers/coaches. Students will be expected to demonstrate correct safety procedures while working with and around horses at all times, while acquiring basic knowledge of the following units of study:

- Barn Safety, Horse Psychology (including horse safety), Horse Handling
- Horse Breeds, Colours, Markings, Anatomy, Grooming, Tack
- Horse Health, Care, and Nutrition
- Saddling, Bridling, Lunging, Mounting/Dismounting, Riding, Maintaining a detailed Riding Journal
- History of the Horse, Equine Disciplines (sports), Equine Trades (farrier/leather worker/etc.)
- Special Project Portfolio (equine-related topic of choice).

As an option, students may have the opportunity to achieve rider level certification in a Horse Council BC accredited program (such as EC Western/English Rider Levels or CHA Levels, depending on interest and availability of qualified evaluators.) Note that some EC certifications can be counted as 2 additional graduation credits!

If you would enjoy learning about horses & environmental science, are motivated, and have a strong work ethic, then the CSS Equestrian Program is for you! As well, you must be an independent worker, and have passed all of your current courses.

In order to be considered for the Equestrian Program, you must complete and submit this application package by the end of course selection (dates will be posted on our website css.sd33.bc.ca).

Important Notes: There is a \$500 program fee, but it can be broken up and paid in monthly installments throughout the school year. It covers all of our lesson fees and busing costs, which are significant. Each rider is also responsible for acquiring a Horse Council BC youth membership (approx.\$55), and needs to have a pair of boots, of any sort, with at least a ¾ inch heel (for safety in the stirrups.) *If cost is a concern/hardship, please don't let that prevent you from applying, we can help.*

If you have any further questions regarding the program, please visit our website at css.sd33.bc.ca/equestrian-program or contact the CSS Equestrian Program teacher, Avril Broekhuizen, at avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca or 604-795-7295 (ext. 3169).

Please return ALL components of this application package to Mrs. Broekhuizen (room 3169), or to the Chilliwack Secondary School Office, in order to be considered for the program.

Student Application Form - CSS Equestrian Program

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address:

(Unit#) (Home Address#) (Street) (City) (Province) (Postal Code)

Home telephone #: _____

Student's email address: _____

Describe WHY you are applying for this program:

Describe some of your strengths:

Describe your future plans (post-secondary, and/or career goals):

Describe an example of a time when you had to work in a self-directed (independent) way, and were successful in achieving your task/goal:

**Feel free to attach a page if you need more space.*

Parent Reference Form – CSS Equestrian Program

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian email address: _____

Please provide any information that you would like us to consider when evaluating your child's application for the CSS Equestrian Program. For example:

- *Would your child find this program motivating?*
- *Are they very interested in horses and riding?*
- *Will your child cope well with being outside 3 days/week - rain or shine? (Note there is an indoor riding arena and meeting room, but it can be quite cold some days.)*
- *Will your child attend every day?*
- *Is your child an independent worker? (Some course components are online and require students to work on these independently)*
- *Does your child have any physical or learning challenges that would prevent them from being safe, and academically successful, in this program?*

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Counselor Reference Form – CSS Equestrian Program

I am sending all of my comments by email: avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca

Student Name: _____

Counsellor's Name: _____

Please consider the following before providing your reference:

- *Is this student on an IEP? If so, does it identify challenges that may not make this program a good fit for the student's academic success and/or physical well-being?*
- *Would this student find this program motivating (re: attendance)?*
- *Is he/she very interested in horses and riding?*
- *Will he/she cope well with being outside 3 days/week - rain or shine?*
- *Is this student capable of independent study (some course components are delivered online, and are to be completed in a self-directed way.)*
- *Do you have any other concerns regarding this student's suitability for the program?*

Counselor Comments:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Teacher Reference Form – CSS Equestrian Program

I am sending my ratings/comments by email to: avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____ Subject/Grade Taught: _____

Please rate this student's academic performance in comparison to his/her peers.

___ superior ___ good ___ average ___ poor

Please rate this student's overall work ethic in comparison to his/her peers.

___ superior ___ good ___ average ___ poor

On a scale of 1(lowest) to 5(highest), rate the student on the following.

_____ self-discipline	_____ punctuality
_____ ability to follow instruction	_____ reliability
_____ initiative	_____ academic ability
_____ cooperation	_____ integrity
_____ trustworthiness	_____ perseverance

Please add any information you would like us to consider when evaluating this student's application for the CSS Equestrian Program. (Or send by email avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca)

Signature: _____

Date: _____