



Thank you for your interest in The Institute's Diploma Program! The Equine Podiatrist Level 1 (D.E.P.) program involves a combination of practical hours and online studies to be completed within one year's time.

The on-line modules include assignments, mid-term and final exams. A Certificate of Completion will be awarded for the completion of the online studies. The cost of the online course is \$475 American dollars for 10 modules. The recommended amount of time to complete the modules is 6 months (1 module every 2 weeks). The online course is designed to be completed at your own pace, however, it is recommended that you take the online course while you are working on fulfilling your practical hours. All online curriculum must be completed with a 12 month calendar year of your enrollment in that program. To enroll in the Online Course, please visit our website at: www.equinepodiatry.net and follow the links on the left side of the screen for Educational Programs, then Online Curriculum, and then to the application itself.

To help you complete the Diploma Program, we will also provide you with a list of recommended reading. These books may help you with the Online Course and your exams. The purchase of these books is however, at your own expense, and is not mandatory.

In addition to the on-line studies, a minimum of 200 hours of practical, hands-on experience are required. Hours are accumulated by attending the Institute's hands-on courses, with each day attended equivalent to eight hours. Students may mix and match their hands-on practical experiences by attending five day courses. We currently run five-day workshops available in the UK at a cost of £625. It is highly recommended that you look ahead on the course schedule and plan in advance which workshops you'll need to attend to complete your minimum hours! But remember, at 200 hours, you are eligible to sit the exam, pending you have a certificate from the online in hand, however, you may take as many hours as you need to feel comfortable to passing the practical exam.

Tools are not included in the price of the workshop, but will be available for sale at the workshop. **Note:** an authentic trimmer's apron is necessary for participating in hands-on work at the courses. Leather chaps and the like are not accepted and cannot be used beginning in Jan 2006. The reason for this is that chaps do not have a breakaway system in case of emergency once a horse's leg get caught in the chaps. Also, most chaps are made of smooth leather which does not aid in holding the foot. But most importantly, riding chaps do not cover and protect the major arteries at the top of the leg in the groin area. A tradition farrier's apron is design to aid and protect while trimming. ****A pair of gloves is also required in order to participate in the trimming days. Both farrier aprons and gloves are available for sale at each and every workshop if you care to purchase them from us.**

Written and Practical exams are required for achieving Level 1. A Certificate of Completion of On-Line Studies must be submitted before the final written and practical exam may be taken. You have 12 months to complete both programs once you sign up, and course hours begin accumulating once you are registered for each program. If you have attended a workshop already, and would like the hours to

count towards your Diploma, you must fill out the Enrollment paperwork with our office, and submit your application for the Online Course within 45 days of the workshop!

Thank you again for your interest! Please let me know what questions you have!

Sincerely,

Robyn La Pierre, GM, AEP

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