



## RANCH HANDS – 2019/2020



The Ranch Hands program is an opportunity for young men/women to earn an eight (8) day Cavalcade trek at Philmont by participating in an eight (8) day work session. You will work with the Horse Department staff taking care of Philmont's 250 head of horses and 80 head of burros. You will be hauling hay and feed, saddling horses, helping keep the horses shod, and assisting on Philmont trail rides. The work can be strenuous and requires top physical and mental conditioning. All necessary equipment will be provided by Philmont, and all participants will be covered by camper's insurance.

After your eight-day work session, The Ranch Hands crew will gather together and embark on an eight-day Cavalcade under the leadership of a Horseman and Wrangler. You will ride the trails through some of the most beautiful country in America. Each night you will be in a different Philmont camp where the program may be Rock Climbing, Archaeology, Mountain Man Rendezvous, or Homesteading. The final afternoon of your Cavalcade features a horseback gymkhana in the arena at Ponil Camp.

### REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- ☐ Be at least 16 years old by the date your program begins, but not yet 21 by its conclusion.
- ☐ Be physically fit, able to lift and handle materials up to 65 lbs.
- ☐ As with all Philmont Horse Programs, there is a **weight limit of 200 pounds or less.**
- ☐ Be able to work and live under the leadership of one of Philmont's Horsemen at a Horse Camp or at Headquarters.
- ☐ A complete physical examination is required. (An Annual BSA Health and Medical Record will be sent to those who are accepted.)

**NOTE:** In order to comply with New Mexico work law, **no exceptions can be made to these requirements.**

### PROGRAM FEE

The fee for this sixteen-day experience is **\$300 for 2019 and 2020.** A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required with this application. The balance of the fee is due at the time of acceptance into the program. Additional expenses, including travel to and from Philmont as well as miscellaneous purchases, are the responsibility of the participant. Those applicants not accepted as participants in the program will have their deposit returned. Participants canceling acceptance will be eligible for a refund if notification is received by May 1. No-shows are not eligible for a refund.

### LOCAL COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY

The local council must approve only those young men/women who meet the qualifications for this program and should assist in arranging transportation and approve the final transportation arrangements.

### HOW TO APPLY

Complete this application. Be sure it has all the necessary signatures – yours, your parent/guardian, your unit leader and Scout Executive, and attach a letter of recommendation. ***Mail your completed application to: Philmont Scout Ranch, BSA, Attn: Ranch Hands, 17 Deer Run Rd., Cimarron, NM 87714 no later than January 7.*** Philmont will notify you in February. If accepted, a packet of materials will be sent to you in March to help you prepare for your Philmont work/trek experience.

### TRAVEL

Shuttles are available from the Albuquerque, New Mexico and Colorado Springs and Denver, Colorado Airports to Philmont. The shuttles depart the airport at 1:00 to 3:00 pm, depending on the location, on the day **before** your scheduled start date, arriving at Philmont at 6:30 to 7:00 pm (approx). The return shuttles leave from 6:00 to 7:30 am on your departure date, arriving at the Airports at 9:45 am to 12:00 noon, depending on location. You may also consider the bus or train arrival at Raton, New Mexico (45 miles from Philmont). A roundtrip shuttle is available from Raton. If you do not arrive by shuttle, plan to arrive at Philmont between 8:00 - 11:00 am on your scheduled start date. The Shuttle information/registration forms will be included in your March packet. **Note:** Shuttle times may change so please check shuttle registration forms upon receiving them or call Philmont for updated information. Participants depart the morning of the seventeenth day (July 23).

**2019 / 2020 RANCH HANDS APPLICATION**

July 7 - 23

(Please circle year above &amp; print clearly)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (middle) (last)

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CELL # \_\_\_\_\_ Home # \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH\* \_\_\_\_\_ (\*Must be 16 by program start date, but not 21 by its conclusion)

CURRENT INFORMATION: Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_  
male / female 200 lbs. max limit**SCOUTING EXPERIENCE:**

Registered with: (circle one) Troop Team Venture Crew Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Tenure \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Council Name and No. \_\_\_\_\_

Leadership Positions Held \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Philmont Experience \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Other High Adventure Experience / Backpacking Experience (please be specific) \_\_\_\_\_

**HORSE EXPERIENCE\*: Check all that apply**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| _____ Own a horse                          | _____ Horsemanship Merit Badge           |
| _____ Worked at Council Camp Horse Program | _____ Experience with other Livestock    |
| _____ Worked at Local Stable               | _____ # of years horse-riding experience |
| _____ Lived/Grew-up on farm or ranch       |  |

\*Preference will be given to those with horse experience.

**RANCH HANDS CODE OF CONDUCT**

The general welfare of any group depends on the conduct of each individual member. This ensures the success of the program and provides the maximum benefit to every participant. As a Ranch Hands participant, I understand this and support the reasonable demands of conduct expected of me.

**AS A RANCH HANDS PARTICIPANT, I WILL:**

- Live the Scout Oath and Law or Venturing Code and Oath
- Observe, respect, and strive to live the Philmont Wilderness Pledge.
- Observe the rules of the Ranch Department and my Supervisor.
- Wear my full official BSA uniform or work clothes as required. Unofficial decorations are not part of the official uniform.
- Be personally responsible for damage and loss of property.
- Understand that theft, vandalism, or deliberate destruction of property, either other participants' or Philmont's is not permitted and will result in dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant.
- Respect all safety procedures and learn to properly use equipment.
- At all times, be considerate of participants and staff at Philmont Scout Ranch.
- Understand that fighting with another participant or staff member is prohibited, and will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant.
- Understand the purchase, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, tobacco, or illicit drugs at any time during the program will not be permitted and will result in dismissal from the program at the expense of the participant. This standard shall apply to all participants. Compliance with state law regulations will apply at all times.

**By signing below, I acknowledge I have read and promise to abide by the code of conduct for Ranch Hands, as listed on this application and have read and understand all the information about the Ranch Hands Program.**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN APPROVAL:**

My son/daughter has our complete permission to participate in a Philmont Ranch Hands experience. I understand that this work is physically demanding and involves a degree of risk to participants as might be expected from hard work, riding and/or handling horses. I along with my son/daughter also acknowledge and agree with the Code of Conduct.

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**UNIT LEADER APPROVAL:**

I attest this applicant is a member in good standing and approve his/her participation in the Ranch Hands Program.

Unit Leader Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCAL COUNCIL ACTION NEEDED:**

Council # \_\_\_\_\_ Council Name \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_

We certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (applicant's name) meets the age and physical requirements for the Ranch Hands Program and is a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Scout Executive or Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**FEE SCHEDULE:**

The total fee is \$300 (2019 or 2020). A \$50 deposit fee must accompany this application. The remaining balance of \$250 will be due upon receipt of confirmation.

**NOTE: Deposit fee, all required signatures of approval and one letter of recommendation must accompany application.**

Please make check payable to Philmont Scout Ranch and mail to: **PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH  
ATTN: RANCH HANDS  
17 DEER RUN RD.  
CIMARRON NM 87714**

Philmont Contact Information: Phone: 575.376.2281  
Email: [camping@philmontscoutranch.org](mailto:camping@philmontscoutranch.org)

Web Address: [www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org](http://www.PhilmontScoutRanch.org)

**FOR PHILMONT USE ONLY:**

Recommendation Letter \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Notified \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Packet Mailed \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Exp. # \_\_\_\_\_

## HIGH ADVENTURE RISK ADVISORY

**Philmont Scout Ranch Experience.** The Philmont experience is not risk-free. Staff will instruct participants in safety measures. Be prepared to listen to and follow these measures. Accept responsibility for the health and safety of yourself and others. Each participant must be able to carry 25 to 35 percent of their body weight while hiking 5 to 12 miles per day in an isolated mountain wilderness ranging from 6,500 to 12,500 feet in elevation over trails that are steep and rocky. Summer/ autumn climate includes temperatures from 30 to 100 degrees, low humidity (10 to 30 percent), and frequent, sometimes severe, thunderstorms. Winter climatic conditions can range from -20 to 60 degrees. During a Winter Adventure experience, each person will walk, ski, or snowshoe along snow-covered trails pulling loaded toboggans or sleds for up to 3 miles—or even more on a cross-country ski trek.

**Risk Advisory.** Philmont has an excellent health and safety record and strives to minimize risks to participants by emphasizing appropriate safety precautions. Because most participants are prepared, are conscious of risks, and take safety precautions, they do not experience injuries. If you decide to attend Philmont, you should be physically fit, have proper clothing and equipment, be willing to follow instructions, work as a team with your crew, and take responsibility for your own health and safety.

Philmont staff members are trained in first aid, CPR, and accident prevention. They can assist the adult advisor in recognizing, reacting to, and responding to accidents, injuries, and illnesses. **Each crew is required to have at least two members trained in wilderness first aid and CPR.** Response times can be affected by location, terrain, weather, or other emergencies and could be delayed for hours or even days in a wilderness setting.

All Philmont participants should understand potential health risks inherent at or above 6,700 feet in elevation in a dry Southwest environment. High elevation; a physically demanding high- adventure program in remote mountainous areas; camping while being exposed to occasional severe weather conditions such as lightning, hail, flash floods, and heat; and other potential problems, including injuries from tripping and falling, falls from horses, heat exhaustion, and motor vehicle accidents, can worsen underlying medical conditions. Native wild animals such as bears, rattlesnakes, and mountain lions usually present little danger if proper precautions are taken.

Please call Philmont at 575-376-2281 if you have any questions. All participants and guests should review all materials and websites related to the experiences they are planning to have at Philmont Scout Ranch.

### PHILMONT WEIGHT LIMITS FOR BACKPACKING AND HIKING

Weight limit guidelines are used because overweight individuals are at a greater risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, altitude illness, sleep problems, and injury. These guidelines are for all Scouting high-adventure activities. Each participant's weight must be less than the maximum acceptable limit in the weight chart. Participants 21 years and older who exceed the maximum acceptable weight limit for their height at the Philmont medical recheck WILL NOT be permitted to backpack or hike at Philmont. They will be sent home.

For participants under 21 years of age who exceed the maximum acceptable weight for height, the Philmont staff will use their judgment to determine if the youth can participate. Philmont will consider up to 20 pounds over the maximum acceptable; however, exceptions are not made automatically and discussion with Philmont in advance is required for any exception. Philmont's telephone number is 575-376-2281. Due to rescue equipment restrictions and evacuation efforts from remote sites, under no circumstances will any individual weighing more than 295 pounds be permitted to participate in backcountry programs.

**Philmont Approval.** Staff and/or staff physicians reserve the right to deny the participation of any individual on the basis of a physical examination and/or medical history. Each participant is subject to a medical recheck at Philmont.

**Height/Weight Restrictions.** If you exceed the maximum weight for height as explained in the following chart and your planned high-adventure activity will take you more than 30 minutes away from an emergency vehicle/accessible roadway, you may not be allowed to participate.

#### Maximum Weight for Height:

| Height(inches) | Max Weight |  | Height(inches) | Max Weight |  | Height(inches) | Max Weight |  | Height(inches) | Max Weight |
|----------------|------------|--|----------------|------------|--|----------------|------------|--|----------------|------------|
| 60             | 166        |  | 65             | 195        |  | 70             | 226        |  | 75             | 260        |
| 61             | 172        |  | 66             | 201        |  | 71             | 233        |  | 76             | 267        |
| 62             | 178        |  | 67             | 207        |  | 72             | 239        |  | 77             | 274        |
| 63             | 183        |  | 68             | 214        |  | 73             | 246        |  | 78             | 281        |
| 64             | 189        |  | 69             | 220        |  | 74             | 252        |  | 79 & over      | 295        |

This table is based on the revised Dietary Guidelines for Americans from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and the Dept. of Health & Human Services.

A water-displacement test to determine percent body fat will also be accepted in lieu of the height-weight guidelines. Women will need to have a body fat of 20% or less and men will need to have a body fat of 15% or less to be qualified to participate. No other form of test to determine percent body fat (DEXA scan, skin fold, etc.) will accepted by Philmont