



KENTUCKY'S EQUINE INDUSTRY

Thoroughbred Racing Career Pathway

RACETRACK: Backside

RACETRACK: Front Side Permanent

RACETRACK: Front Side Seasonal

Higher-Skilled

Trainer
Average Annual Earnings: \$40-60k +
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Long-Term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED plus KHRC licensure

Assistant Trainer
Average Annual Earnings: \$40,800
Work Experience Required: Less than 5 yrs
On-the-Job Training: Moderate-Term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED plus KHRC licensure

Jockey
Average Annual Earnings: \$30,000 - \$50,000 +/-
Work Experience Required: Less than 5 years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Minimum Education Required: ROAP licensure

Exercise Rider
Average Earnings: \$500 - \$700+/week or \$10 - \$15/horse
Work Experience Required: 1+ years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Minimum Education Required: ROAP licensure

Outrider
Average Annual Earnings: \$20,000 - \$45,000+/year
Work Experience Required: Less than 5 years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Minimum Education Required: ROAP licensure

Barn Foreman
Average Annual Earnings: \$28,050
Work Experience Required: Less than 5 yrs
On-the-Job Training: Moderate-term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED, plus KHRC licensure

Groom
Average Annual Earnings: \$25,500
Work Experience Required: Less than one year
On-the-Job Training: Short-term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED, plus KHRC licensure

Hotwalker
Average Annual Earnings: \$15,300
Work Experience Required: Less than one year
On-the-Job Training: Short-term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED, plus KHRC licensure

Higher-Skilled

Track Superintendent
Average Annual Earnings: \$70-150k +
Work Experience Required: 10+ years
On-the-Job Training: Long-term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED, plus ROAP licensure

Racing Secretary
Average Annual Earnings: \$30-60k
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Long-term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED, plus ROAP licensure

Steward
Average Annual Earnings: \$35-80k
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Long-term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED, plus ROAP licensure

Stall Superintendent
Average Annual Earnings: \$40-55k
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate-term
Minimum Education Required: High School Diploma/GED

Higher-Skilled

Paddock Judge
Average Earnings: \$32/hr
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency
Accreditation: Completion of ROAP Certificate Course or Accreditation may be required

Patrol Judge
Average Earnings: \$32/hr
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency
Accreditation: Completion of ROAP Certificate Course or Accreditation may be required

Placing Judge
Average Earnings: \$32/hr
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency
Accreditation: Completion of ROAP Certificate Course or Accreditation may be required

Starter
Average Earnings: \$60/hr
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency
Accreditation: Completion of ROAP Certificate Course or Accreditation may be required

Clocker
Average Earnings: \$24/hr
Work Experience Required: 5+ years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency

Clerk of Scales
Average Earnings: \$27/hr
Work Experience Required: Less than 5 years
On-the-Job Training: Moderate - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency
Accreditation: Completion of ROAP Certificate Course or Accreditation may be required

Entry Clerk
Average Earnings: \$30/hr
Work Experience: Less than 5 years
On-the-Job Training: Short - Term
Licensure: licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency
Accreditation: Completion of ROAP Certificate Course or Accreditation may be required

Identifier
Average Earnings: \$200/day
Work Experience Required: Less than 5 years
On-the-Job Training: Short - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency
Accreditation: Completion of ROAP Certificate Course or Accreditation may be required

Silks Coordinator
Average Earnings: \$16/hr
Work Experience Required: Less than 5 years
On-the-Job Training: Short - term
Licensure: Licensed as a Racing Official by the state racing commission or applicable regulatory agency

Entry - Level

* On-the-job training: Short-term = brief onboarding requirements, Moderate-term = procedural experiences over time, Long-term = ongoing educational requirements

