



# 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

Middle-Skilled

Entry - Level