

**Effective October 1, 2015**  
**Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award**

Whether you are a junior/young rider, adult amateur, or professional, the Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award serves as a way for USDF to recognize your accomplishments. Like all USDF Rider Awards, the Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award is available to USDF Participating and Group Members. As scores counting towards USDF Rider Awards do not expire, the scores you earn now may be applied towards the Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award when it becomes available in the 2016 competition year.

A certificate and lapel pin will be awarded when a rider's application for the Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award is processed. Additionally, Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award recipients will be recognized in the yearbook issue of *USDF Connection*. The Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Awards will not be presented at the USDF Salute Gala & Annual Awards Banquet. See below for award requirements. [Questions?](#)

**ELIGIBILITY**

- Rider must have a USDF Participating Membership or Group Membership at the time the scores are earned.
- Rider must be a member in good standing of USDF when scores are earned.
- All riders, including those who compete in the open, adult amateur, and junior/young riders divisions, are eligible.
- Horse must have a USDF Horse Identification Number (HID) or Lifetime Horse Registration (LHR) at the time scores are earned. Exception: horses competing only in breed restricted competitions.
- Horse shall be documented with USDF in the name of the owner under which it is exhibited.
- Scores may be earned on multiple horses.

**RECORDED SCORES & APPLICATION**

- Rider must submit application and fee to USDF, online, using the official Rider Performance Award Application, after all of the required five scores are earned.
- To be awarded a Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award in the current calendar year, applications are due by September 30 with a \$25 processing fee. Members who submit an application, from October 1 through October 15, will have the option to be awarded their Dressage Seat Equitation Rider Award in the current calendar year with payment of a \$75 late fee (this fee is in addition to the \$25 processing fee).
- Scores must be earned at USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions. Only scores earned in Dressage Seat Equitation classes are eligible.
- Scores must be from classes that were scored using the USEF Dressage Equitation class scoresheet or the USEF Dressage Seat Medal Class scoresheet.
- Scores do not expire and need not be earned in one competition year.
- Riders may earn an award only once at each level.
- Scores may be used multiple times for progressive awards.
- Scores earned prior to August 1, 2011 must be submitted by competitor with appropriate verification

**ELEMENTARY LEVEL**

- Must have five scores of 65 percent and above
- From at least three different USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions
- From at least three different judges

**ACCOMPLISHED LEVEL**

- Must have five scores of 72 percent and above
- From at least three different USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions
- From at least three different judges

**ELITE LEVEL**

- Must have five scores of 80 percent and above
- From at least three different USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions
- From at least three different judges

**Awards:** Riders that earn the Dressage Seat Equitation Award will earn a USDF certificate that will recognize their achievement at the appropriate level. In addition, the rider will receive a specially designed USDF lapel pin. The base colors of the pins will be yellow, red, and blue for the Elementary, Accomplished, and Elite Levels, respectively. Certificates and pins are issued as applications are received and verified by USDF.