

West Virginia Certified Thoroughbred Program Rules & Regulations

What is the West Virginia Certified Thoroughbred Program?

WV Certified is a residency program that allows Thoroughbred racehorses to become eligible to compete in the WV Restricted Races at both Charles Town and Mountaineer. The horse must reside in the state of WV for six (6) consecutive months before January 1 of its 3-year-old year. Upon successful completion of the Compliance and final inspection, your horse will receive West Virginia Certification.

How to enroll your horse in the WV Certified Program

1. Register your horse with The Jockey Club and insert the microchip.
2. Confirm your horse has time to complete the six months PRIOR to turning 3 on January 1.
3. Download and complete the WV Certified Application from the WVTBA website <http://wvtba.com/> or the WV Racing Commission website <https://racing.wv.gov/>
4. All owners of the horse must be members of the WVTBA, download and complete Membership Application from <http://wvtba.com/> for each owner if needed.
5. Submit your application and required fees (membership and application) to the West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Office.
6. Owner/Farm manager is fully responsible for coordinating the Initial and the Final inspections. This is accomplished by emailing wvbreeders@gmail.com and requesting the proper inspection.

Compliance Requirements

All horses require an Initial Inspection, Final Inspection, and Random Inspections during the qualifying 6 months.

Inspections: Have the horse on halter and lead so the microchip is readily accessible for the inspector to safely scan during inspection visits. Horses running loose in a stall, pen or field are not considered accessible and do not qualify as inspected, additional inspection fees may be assessed for return visits.

A continuous six-month residency within West Virginia is mandatory. Any departure from the state, excluding approved sales or essential veterinary care, will result in immediate eligibility revocation without a refund. See attached section of the WV State Code. The horse may reapply, pay full fees, and begin the 6-month certification process again.

Upon successful completion of the Compliance Requirements and Final Inspection, your horse will receive WV Certified noted on The Jockey Club Digital Papers.

*****Note**** WV Certified horses are NOT eligible to participate in WV Accredited Stakes Races or WV Breeders Classics and do NOT receive WVDF bonus funds. West Virginia accredited thoroughbreds shall receive preference over West Virginia certified thoroughbreds in the event of an oversubscribed field.

State Code of West Virginia Chapter 19-23-3

- (33) West Virginia Certified Thoroughbred means a thoroughbred horse that:
- (A) Is registered with the West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeds Association; and
 - (B) Prior to its three year-old year finished six consecutive months of verifiable residence in the state, except for 30 days grace:
 - (i) For the horse to be shipped to and from horse sales where the horse is officially entered in the sales catalogue of a recognized thoroughbred sales company; or
 - (ii) For obtaining veterinary services, documented by veterinary reports;
 - (C) Is subject to an affidavit, certification, or audit/inspection by the WV Thoroughbred Breeders Association;
 - (D) Is ineligible to participate in WV Accredited Stakes Races or WV Breeders Classics;