



**S**tudent athletes often struggle to balance school work with their sports, and equestrians are no different. Because most shows aren't planned around an academic schedule, equestrians from kindergarten through college often use tutoring services as a supplement to or in place of a traditional school setting. Several of these services have programs specifically catered to the needs of equestrians and their demanding schedules.

At Grand Prix Tutoring, tutors are carefully vetted, experienced professors, teachers, and educators with upbeat personalities and superior communications skills. Its tutors are dedicated to helping students exceed their academic goals while simultaneously creating fun, memorable learning

experiences for them. Grand Prix Tutoring has the unique ability to match students with tutors who will work best with both their learning style and personality.

Jacey Albaugh, a 16-year-old Junior at the Madeira School in McLean, Va., has been riding for 14 years, and shows her horse, Axel Springs, in the Medium Junior Jumpers. She worked one-on-one with Grand Prix Tutoring founder and owner Danielle Cooper for nine weeks during the 2016 Winter Equestrian Festival. "I have definitely benefited from working with Grand Prix Tutoring," Albaugh said. "I was able to excel in my classes, even though I was not in school for nine weeks. It would not have been possible without Danielle. She was effective and efficient in her teaching methods and always had a plan

for every week. She also understands how hard balancing riding horses and school can be because she did the same as a Junior Rider; she knows the best ways to keep up with school while maximizing riding time."

Palm Beach International Academy partners with highly recognized accredited programs around the United States to offer an exceptional customized program for each individual student. Geared around a regular school calendar, students attend classes in specific subjects, yet are able to work at their own pace for each course. Tutors conduct discussions on specific content while working one-on-one with students. While Palm Beach International Academy has locations in Wellington and Boca Raton, Florida, tutors also travel the horse show circuit and have

Opposite: Students and tutors work together at the Palm Beach International Academy.  
 Below: Tutors work one-on-one with students at Upper Echelon Academy in Wellington, Fla.  
 Right Top: Jumper Anna Platek graduated from Weston High School in 2016 with the help of Signature Tutoring.  
 Right Bottom: Grand Prix Tutoring founder Danielle Cooper works with a student at his home for his convenience.



tutoring centers at Ocala, Gulfport, Kentucky, Old Salem, the Hamptons, and more.

Signature Tutoring Services offers a range of services to meet the academic needs of equestrian student athletes, including traditional subject tutoring, a full-time and seasonal accredited school at Wellington Preparatory School, standardized test preparation, college planning and application support, and exam proctoring. The organization provides a high-level service, supporting students who attend some of the best schools in the country, which means they must uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. The Signature Tutoring Services honor code is posted everywhere tutors go, from the web site to winter locations in Florida to temporary study halls at major horse shows

across the country.

Upper Echelon Academy (UEA) is founded on the premise that equestrians require unique scholastic support to excel academically without compromising riding schedules. Its tutors work one-on-one with students, and closely with trainers, around competitions in order to meet the academic goals of every student.

Natalie Jayne, the Overall Medium Pony Hunter Champion at the 2016 US Pony Finals presented by Collecting Gaits Farm, has been working with UEA for three years. "One of the best qualities of the Upper Echelon tutoring is that they are able to accommodate the student by coming to whatever place you need them," said Jayne. "It works well for me to tutor at my house at 8 a.m. I usually tutor Monday

through Thursday at the same time each day. Luckily for me, my mom is my trainer so she works very closely with Upper Echelon to make sure that I am keeping up with all of the expectations of my school and am able to have the time needed to train at the highest level."

For more information on each of these services, please visit their websites listed below.

Grand Prix Tutoring: [grandprix-tutoring.com](http://grandprix-tutoring.com)

Palm Beach International Academy: [privatetutoringservices.com](http://privatetutoringservices.com)

Signature Tutoring Services: [signaturetutoring.com](http://signaturetutoring.com)

Upper Echelon Academy: [upperechelonacademy.com](http://upperechelonacademy.com)

■ Eileen Schnettler