Paperwork required to register your Paint Horse can seem like a huge mountain to climb daunting and complicated. Missing or omitted information causes you to wander off the path of completed work, resulting in delays and added hassle. But doing it right the first time turns the experience into something more like an easy hike—an experience as refreshing as the cool alpine air.

Never fear, Paint owners: like your own personal Sherpa, APHA’s MemberCare team is here to fearlessly guide you through the registration process and help you take care of this important detail as fast and easy as possible. Read on for step-by-step explanations for some of our most common scenarios.

Registering Your Horse

APHA registration holds all sorts of benefits for your Paint: it increases its value, preserves its lineage and makes him eligible for all sorts of APHA programs, recognition and awards. The cost of registration is minimal compared to the lifetime benefits it yields, and taking care of it early on in your foal’s life means less cost to you.

What You Need:

- Registration Application
- Signature of the owner of the stallion at the time of service
- Signature of the dam owner at the time of foaling
- Photos of the horse being registered (left side, right side, front and rear, along with close-ups of minimal markings)
- Copy of the dam’s registration papers and mare enrollment fee, if she’s a Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred and this is her first APHA-registered foal
- Payment for registration fees

The Process:

1. Complete the Registration Application form in full. This includes selecting three name options for your foal (each up to 21 characters long), foaling date and location, breeding method used, color, type (pattern), sex, and sire and dam information.

2. Get the stallion owner’s signature for the “Sire Information” section. If the breeding has been “released” by the stallion owner, their signature is not required—you might see a note to that effect on the pre-printed registration application you received from the stallion owner, or APHA can check that for you. If you’re unsure, have the stallion owner sign the form.
3. Get the signature of the owner of the dam at the time of foaling for the “Dam Information” section. This is based on APHA records, so make sure they’re up to date. This person will be listed as the foal’s original owner if the foal is being sold at the time of registration, the dam owner must also sign the “Transfer of Foal” section on page 2 of the application—that’s where the new owner’s information will be listed.

4. If your foal is eligible for APHA’s Breeder’s Trust program (the sire must have been subscribed to the program for the applicable breeding year), you can enroll your foal in the “Foal Nomination” section. Fees are based on the age of the foal, and the foal nominator receives a portion of Breeder’s Trust earnings for the lifetime of the foal.

5. If DNA testing is required or desired, make your selection in the “DNA” section on page 2. Parentage verification is required when the foal was bred by transported or frozen semen, embryo or oocyte transfer, or vitrified embryo, if he’s a cross, or if racing or breeding is in the foal’s future. A DNA kit for the mare might also be required unless her results are already on file. Each kit is $60.

6. Include photos of the horse being registered. Every horse must have a full-body shot from the left side, right side, front, and rear. Make sure your horse is clean and the photos are clear and in focus. Include extra photos showing the spot with and without a ruler, and with the hair clipped short if needed. Quality photos are vital for fast, accurate registration; be sure to include them with your registration application, not sent separately.

7. Include payment or credit card information for all fees. Registration fees are based on the horse’s age, and the resulting foal owner must have a membership—you can select membership options on the registration form. Other fees might apply for transfer of ownership, mare enrollment, and DNA kits. Select the “Rush” option for faster turnaround—that $60 fee moves your work to the front of the line.

8. Send the completed registration application, photos, payment, and other applicable items to APHA via mail or email them to askapha@apha.com. Make sure you send the material in one way—mailing and emailing can result in duplicate charges and added hassle. Registrations are usually completed within two to six weeks after being received by APHA unless you opt for “Rush” processing.

Double checking that your forms are completed in full is the No. 1 way to ensure quick processing.
But what if...
I don't know what color or pattern to select for my foal?

No problem—make your best guess or leave that section blank for the APHA MemberCare team to complete.

The stallion owner never filed breeding paperwork with APHA?

This can be tricky to know without asking APHA directly, so make sure you have the stallion owner sign the registration form—that confirms their agreement to provide all information required by APHA. If you learn the stallion breeding report wasn’t filed or your mare wasn’t listed on the report, contact the stallion owner with a request to file those forms.

I own the dam, but she’s not in my name yet?

You’ll need to get her ownership updated: file a Transfer Report for APHA mares, or provide a copy of the registration papers showing the ownership history for a Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred dam. You can include this paperwork with your foal’s registration. If this is a Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred mare’s first APHA-registered foal, she’ll need to be enrolled in APHA’s system and a one-time $25 fee will apply.

My horse is older—is it too late to get him registered?

There’s no age limit for registration, so long as all requirements are met. Horses age 10 and older at the time of registration must be parentage verified.

The breeder gave me the APHA registration paperwork when I bought my foal—can I file it?

You can file the paperwork—make sure it’s been completely filled out, and ensure you have the signature of the owner of the dam at the time of foaling on page 1 (“Dam Information” section) and page 2 (“Transfer of Foal” section). Work with the breeder to obtain any missing information. List your information in the “Transfer of Foal” section as the buyer, and make sure to include the photos and all applicable fees.

I want to register my horse online—is that possible?

Registering your foal online at aphaonline.org is quick and easy—check out our online registration how-to video at apha.com/forms/registration-forms. The stallion owner needs to release the breeding for online registration; if that hasn’t been done, request that the stallion owner do it online or by sending a signed request to APHA.

You can also provide APHA with a copy of the registration application that’s been signed by the stallion owner. Next, the mare owner goes online to aphaonline.org, logs in and clicks “Bronze”—then, just follow the prompts for registration.

Quarter Horses or Thoroughbreds must be enrolled with APHA before their foals can be registered online. Check out “E-ficiency” in the September 2014 Paint Horse Journal for step-by-step online registration instructions.

My Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred has white markings—can I register him with APHA?

Cropped Paints are eligible for APHA registration; just like a regular Paint, they must have a white spot two inches or larger with underlying unpigmented skin in the “qualifying area”—that’s basically above the center of the knees or hocks, or behind an imaginary line drawn from the base of the ear to the outside corner of the eye to the corner of the mouth and under the chin. Fill out the registration application and include a copy of the horse’s Apha registration certificate (front and back), DNA test results for parentage verification, photos and payment information. Check out our helpful video about registering cropped foals at youtube.com/aphavideo or search “Register Cropout” in your Internet browser.

Replacing Lost Registration Papers

Between spring-cleaning, cluttered offices and disasters like fire or theft, registration papers sometimes go missing. In those cases, you can apply for a replacement from APHA.

What You Need:
- The Affidavit for Duplicate Certificate form
- Signature of the horse’s current owner, according to APHA records
- At least two current side-view photos of the horse (left side and right side); if the horse is solid or minimally marked, include a front-view photo, too.
- Notary’s signature or a copy of your photo ID
- Payment for duplicate certificate fee

The Process:
1. Complete the Affidavit for Duplicate Certificate form in full—including the horse’s registered name and number, the signature of the horse’s current owner (based on APHA records) and an explanation of when and how the registration papers were lost.
2. Have the form notarized. If a notary is not available, you can submit a copy of the current owner’s photo ID, like a driver’s license or passport, to use instead.

3. Include photos of the horse for positive identification. At a minimum, send full-body photos of the horse from the left side and the right side. If your horse is solid or minimally marked, send a photo showing the horse from the front, too. If he’s a light-colored horse—palomino, cremello, perlino or grey, for instance—make sure the horse’s coat pattern can be seen—try wetting the horse’s coat or taking the photos in a shaded area.

4. Include payment or credit card information. The duplicate certificate fee is $40—that’s a member rate, and it’s more cost-effective to renew your APHA membership to qualify for this rate. You can renew on the form. Need the certificate fast? Select the $25 “Rush” option (in addition to other fees) for faster completion.

5. Send the form, photos and payment to APHA via mail or email them to askapha@apha.com. Make sure you send the material only one way—mailing and emailing can result in duplicate charges and added hassle.

But what if...

My horse’s papers were lost by a previous owner, and ownership hasn’t been updated?

The Affidavit for Duplicate Certificate must be signed by the horse’s current owner listed in APHA records—that’s why it’s so important to make sure your horse’s ownership is updated every time he’s sold. You’ll need to contact the horse’s owner of record for their assistance; take that opportunity to have them sign a transfer report and then you can complete the Affidavit for Duplicate Certificate—Current Owner form.

The horse is owned by a partnership or ranch?

The duplicate certificate form requires the signature of someone who is approved to sign for the farm, ranch or organization. So make sure a signature authorization form is on file with APHA to make sure you get the correct signature. Need to update who can sign work? The form is available at apha.com/forms/registration-forms.

My horse’s papers were lost in the mail?

You still need to complete the Affidavit for Duplicate Certificate form, but depending on your situation, some other requirements—like photos of a recently registered foal—might be waived. Contact APHA’s MemberCare team at askapha@apha.com for details.

I find the original papers later?

After a duplicate certificate is issued, the previous version is null and void. If you find the original copy later, it’s your responsibility to destroy it and only use the newer version.

Jessica Hein is editor of the Paint Horse Journal, and the senior director of APHA’s MemberCare team.

We’ve Got Answers

If you still have questions about registering your horse, contact APHA’s MemberCare pros—our friendly staff is happy to answer your questions.

askapha@apha.com
817.222.9423
apha.com/forms/registration-forms
Online Registration Video: youtube.be/tpVqLhM97rA
Cropout Registration Video: youtube.be/ATaEnJ8jHNg