

EQUUSOMA® Student Agreement

EQUUSOMA® students embark on an in-depth process of personal and/or professional development when taking part in the EQUUSOMA® program and its related offerings. Similar to other multi-level training programs, we have collected key program information and guidelines into one resource for ease of reference, the **EQUUSOMA® Policies Handbook – Student and Practitioner Edition** (policy revisions and updates are added to the www.equusoma.com website). Since it is not possible to include all policies below, you must review the Handbook and Addenda prior to completing the present Agreement and your registration.

Please initial each section to indicate that you have read it and are in agreement.

Terminology:

- **“Faculty”** refers to full faculty members and faculty in training.
- **“Team”** refers to individuals who support EQUUSOMA® students in various capacities. The core team includes the founder, office manager, program liaison, and faculty (also referred to as “Administration” for the purposes of this document). Training assistants are also valuable team members. Team members are considered “agents” or “representatives” of the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation.
- **“Event”** refers to various offerings related to EQUUSOMA®, including but not limited to Level 1 and Level 2 training components, bonus features, as well as other offerings that are separate from the EQUUSOMA® training program, such as webinars, workshops, master classes, special courses, or other experiences.
- **“Student”** and **“participant”** are used interchangeably in this document.

DISCLAIMER

The EQUUSOMA® program provides a mix of theory and practical skills as well as the opportunity to experience the learning directly in a bottom-up way, which can in turn deepen student personal and/or professional development in human-equine contexts. Although students complete credit hours as part of the Certificate Track (personal sessions and case consultations), and while some students report that participation in the program has supported their own healing journey, **the program and the credit hours are educational in nature and are not considered psychotherapy or counselling**. In addition, the EQUUSOMA® program and the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation do not provide formal clinical supervision and are not a regulatory or licensing organization.

All content and information provided in the context of the EQUUSOMA® program is for informational and educational purposes only, does not constitute medical or veterinary advice or diagnosis, and registration in the training program does not establish any patient/client relationship with Sarah Schlote, the faculty, or training assistants.

A student may establish a patient–client relationship with one of the program’s approved credit providers, though doing so is not required to complete credit hours. However, this relationship takes place within that provider’s independent practice and is entirely separate from the EQUUSOMA® program. Establishing such a relationship requires a signed written agreement that outlines its terms. The EQUUSOMA® program, Sarah Schlote, and the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation (“**We**”) are not parties to that agreement and bear no responsibility or liability for any matters arising from that relationship or its governing agreement.

Although we strive to provide accurate information, the EQUUSOMA® program is not a substitute for any kind of psychological, psychiatric, medical or veterinary advice or treatment, nor is it a substitute for the guidance of a clinical animal behaviourist or other similar professional. Always consult a professional for your or the equine’s particular needs and circumstances prior to making any professional, legal, medical,

veterinary, financial, or other significant decisions. Students in all streams are strongly encouraged to regularly engage with a psychotherapist or counsellor for support.

Initial here: _____

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

I agree to abide by all EQUUSOMA® program and Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation policies, procedures, and guidelines included in the most current revision of the Policies Handbook and Addenda, which are subject to change. I understand that the current versions of the Policies Handbook and Addenda replace all previous editions or policies, and that I have reviewed these policies prior to registration. I understand that this Student Agreement does not list all policies but that I am nonetheless bound by all current program policies. I understand that notice of changes to policies may be communicated via email, the EQUUSOMA® website, the eLearning portal, and/or via regular public means including social media. I agree that such postings and or email communications shall be sufficient notice of any changes to our policies, procedures, and guidelines. I understand and agree that it is my responsibility to check my email, the website, eLearning portal, social media, and/or regular public postings for updates and that I am bound by all current policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Initial here: _____

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Regardless of which stream(s) apply to my registration as a student in the program, I understand that:

- Professional stream students must be actively working in a relevant scope of practice that is equine related, and personal stream students must currently be involved with or impacted by equines in some capacity to participate in the program.
- The professional stream encompasses a wide range of professionals that work with equines and humans. While it is not considered a clinical training, it has relevance to those who work in clinical and non-clinical scopes of practice.
- Attending EQUUSOMA® training does not ensure that all methods, principles or techniques taught within the program will be appropriate for inclusion in someone's professional practice or personal life. The EQUUSOMA® training will not qualify anyone to be a trauma therapist, Somatic Experiencing® Practitioner, equine professional, equine-assisted interventions professional, or other kind of professional. The material taught in the program does not lead to a standalone scope of practice or occupation that will allow them to work with humans and/or equines as clients, and professional stream students must have a relevant scope of practice or occupation prior to joining the program. EQUUSOMA® professional stream students, graduates, and Practitioners are responsible for operating within their professional scope of practice or occupation and for abiding by applicable provincial/state and federal laws and legislation.
- EQUUSOMA® students, graduates, and Practitioners are responsible for ensuring that they have adequate professional insurance to cover the inclusion of the EQUUSOMA® model and participation in the EQUUSOMA® program within their scope of practice, and for abiding by the terms of their insurance. EQUUSOMA® does not provide insurance coverage to students, graduates, or Practitioners and we will not be held liable for any losses because of a student's, graduate's, or Practitioner's failure to obtain any insurance coverage.
- Professional and personal stream students complete the same Theory Modules and attend the same Bonus Features and Practice Modules, with some differences that reflect their different intentions and contexts within which they will be applying the material. For instance, personal stream students will be observers (or, in exceptional circumstances, lenders) but will not take on

the role of practitioner or practitioner during practice rounds, which is reserved for professional stream students.

- While personal stream students will be exposed to the same educational content as those in the professional streams, this does not mean that personal stream students are permitted to begin applying the material in a professional capacity without additional training, an applicable scope of practice or occupation, insurance, or any other credentials or requirements necessary to work safely, ethically, and legally.
- Both professional and personal stream students are eligible to join the Certificate Track and complete the requirements to receive the Level 1 and Level 2 Certificates of Completion, at which point students are considered to have graduated from the EQUUSOMA® program.
- The EQUUSOMA® Practitioner (ESP) designation is limited to professional stream students, and the ESP process has been paused for all professional stream students who do not complete the Level 2 training modules by the end of 2026.

I confirm that I meet the eligibility criteria listed in the Student Streams, Eligibility, and Practice Requirements Addendum and that I will only apply what I learn in the program within the context of the student stream(s) that pertain to my situation.

Initial here: _____

CONFIDENTIALITY

I understand that I am required to maintain the confidentiality and privacy of other students, animals, and team members in the EQUUSOMA® program, including their attendance and anything they have shared or processed. I also understand that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed and agree to use discretion when sharing information during the training.

Initial here: _____

I understand that EQUUSOMA® events are run with the support of an assisting team, whose role will be to contribute to the safety, containment, and learning experience of the group. The assisting team will meet before and during Practice Modules to debrief and address student needs and concerns. I understand that anything I share with any member of the EQUUSOMA® team pertaining to my capacity to engage in the practice rounds or in the program as a whole, or pertaining to my experience of the program, may be discussed within the team with the intention of supporting me to the best of their abilities and in the interest of addressing feedback.

Initial here: _____

I am aware that the names and emails of students and/or assistants within each cohort or at specific events will be shared within the cohort or group for the purposes of facilitating communication. I agree to not disclose any names and contact information to anyone else beyond the event or group without their written consent. I consent to having my contact information shared with others for the sole purpose of facilitating professional referrals (for e.g., in response to inquiries for service providers with EQUUSOMA® training, or in a future list or directory on our website, pending the scope of such a list or directory). I understand that my contact information will not be shared with or sold to third parties for solicitation, marketing, or other commercial purposes. I understand that any mention of my contact information does not constitute an endorsement of my skills or services, and that there is no guarantee that I will receive any referrals.

Initial here: _____

EXPENSES AND FEES

Program pricing – Level 1: I understand that Level 1 registration fees cover the cost of tuition, which includes access to the training videos for the Theory Modules, program handouts and the compilation of resources in the eLearning portal, attendance at the live online Practice Modules, exclusive access to attend the Bonus Features live online, access to the recordings of the Bonus Features (all Level 1 and 2 students regardless of stream), and the Video Library (when it becomes available).

Program pricing – Level 2: I understand that Level 2 registration fees cover the cost of tuition, which includes access to the training videos for the Theory Modules, program handouts and the compilation of resources in the eLearning portal, attendance at the live in-person Practice Modules (including notepads, pens, and refreshments), and the Video Library (when it becomes available).

Incidental costs: I understand that I am responsible for covering the cost of incidental expenses related to the program separate from the registration fees, such as credit hour requirements (sessions and consultations), required reading materials that are not available for free, any outstanding Practice Module make-up time I may have to complete, travel fees to attend in-person modules (including but not limited to transportation, accommodations, and meals), etc.

Pricing policy: I understand that faculty members, assistants, and approved providers set their own fees when offering services to students (such as Practice Module make up time and credit hour requirements). I understand that some providers must charge tax. I understand that some team members may not currently have space available and there may be a waitlist involved in accessing services that are offered on a sliding scale or that are offered pro bono (without a fee). I understand that I may need to disclose my scholarship status to approved providers to access a reduced rate.

Service fees: I understand that additional fees may be applied at the discretion of the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation to cover operational expenses in specific circumstances. These include administrative fees, deferral surcharges, and location change surcharges, which are subject to change in future years and may be subject to tax depending on the student's country of residence.

Portal access and subscription: I understand that **access to the training content in the portal is time limited** and that access can be restored via subscription. I understand that Level 1 registration fees grant access to the Level 1 training content in the online portal for **2 years** (the year I am in the Level 1 program and for 1 year after completing Level 1 Practice Module 2). I also understand that Level 2 registration fees grant access to the Level 2 training content in the online portal for **2 years** (for the year I am in the Level 2 program and for 1 year after completing Level 2 Practice Module 2), and that my Level 2 registration also extends access to the Level 1 training content by another 2 years. I understand that deferrals, cancellations, or program abandonment will change these terms of access. I understand that the most current terms and conditions related to portal access apply.

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PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS

I understand that payment is required to hold my spot in the training program, and that it is possible to pay for the tuition in instalments, provided that the registration fee is received in full by the stated deadlines. I understand that there are specific conditions under which switching offerings or cohorts, deferrals, or refunds might occur and that these conditions are subject to change. I understand that the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation is not liable or responsible for any fees, incurred expenses, or lost wages incurred as a result of my having to reserve time to complete any component of the training program should it be cancelled or rescheduled or should I withdraw from an event or the

program as a whole. I confirm that I have reviewed the most recent update of the Payment and Refund Policy Addendum.

Initial here: _____

POTENTIAL RISKS

I recognize that trainings that focus on the “safe and effective use of self” encourage students to reflect and work on how the material affects them personally, whether they are in a professional stream or the personal stream. This is to support self-awareness, self-regulation, integration, attunement and embodiment. Although there are frameworks, principles, techniques, and practical pieces to learn about, I understand that my nervous system is the main tool that will be emphasized.

Initial here: _____

I understand that events that have trauma and equines as a focus are not risk free. I understand that the subjects covered in the program may be deeply personal, and that the same elements that contribute to the unique character and enhance the learning potential and benefits of such experiences can also lead to possible challenges, some of which are described below:

Group-Based Experiential Learning

- Many students are drawn to and attend the EQUUSOMA® training as a result of personal, ancestral, or collective adverse experiences, whether equine related or not. Certain aspects of the program may be more challenging or activating as a result. For instance, experiential learning involves group activities and varying degrees of social engagement, which may include disclosures about peoples’ and animals’ experiences (even if contained); learning about unconscious patterns; participation-based vulnerability (e.g., during demonstrations, practice rounds, and discussions); unresolved shame, guilt, or feelings of inadequacy that might emerge; interpersonal dynamics and re-enactments with other students, team members, and animals; spontaneously remembering past experiences, etc.

Initial here: _____

- Students in each training cohort have varying needs and capacities, which can sometimes conflict with one another. While we aim to apply trauma-informed principles, and to attune, titrate, and customize the experience as much as possible in relation to what is coming up, doing so perfectly for each individual nervous system is impossible. As a result, students are responsible for managing their own safety, voicing their needs, and may opt to “pass” at any point on any individual or group exercise or demonstration that they are not comfortable with or feel is beyond their capacity. Alternatively, discomfort with an experiential component may be a clue that the student is experiencing a need that may not yet have been voiced that, if addressed, would allow them to participate. Students have the right to change their mind, set boundaries around what they want to explore during demonstrations and/or practice time, or withdraw consent to participate in experiential components at any time, without this impacting their general involvement in the EQUUSOMA® program, unless it is deemed that the program is not the right fit at the present time. Overall attendance is required to complete the program, and a lack of active participation in experiential practices may limit integration of the material and compromise a student’s ability to progress in the program in terms of their developmental trajectory in relation to the curriculum.

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- Activation or disruptions that arise during the program are approached as a learning opportunity to demonstrate and teach some of the material in real time, such as how to make sense of it (conceptualization) and how to use the skills and principles taught in the program to work with it (application). A willing student may consent to being a volunteer to demonstrate working with activation in support of teaching the program, for educational or illustrative (as opposed to

therapeutic) purposes. The specific issue that resulted in student activation might not be addressed or resolved during the training. Similarly, although training and assisting team members and fellow students may offer a student support if activation arises (provided this does not interrupt the class or interfere with assisting or teaching duties), it is not the role of anyone in the training to resolve this activation within the training context. Anyone who experiences activation during the training, whether students or team members, will take appropriate steps to look after themselves and is encouraged to obtain further support outside the training.

Initial here: _____

- While the program aims to support the development of relevant skills and capacity that may help students navigate challenges or activation that may arise, all students are also expected to have a certain level of self-regulation skills prior to starting the program. If a concern arises about a student's ability to appropriately manage their activation in a way that does not interfere with the rest of the group, the faculty member or a member of the assisting team may need to speak with the student about appropriate steps to take, given the goal of the program is educational and not to provide therapy. If the disruption is not resolved and hinders the learning of the other students, those responsible may be removed from the training so that the material can be taught as intended.

Initial here: _____

- Additional reasons for pausing a student's participation in the program or for removing them from a Practice Module or the program as a whole include, but are not limited to, if the training may cause harm to a student, if a complaint has been received about a student, or if a student has received a finding of misconduct against them by any licensing, regulating, associative, or legal body.

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- Mistakes can occur when practicing concepts or techniques, which is a normal part of any learning curve. Students are encouraged to make use of the required consultation hours to continue to support their learning, as well as to complete the personal sessions, assigned readings, and other requirements to help integrate the material.

Initial here: _____

- Faculty members, assistants, and approved providers bring different skill sets and development to their practices. As part of their ongoing development, they also consult with professionals and obtain additional training as required.

Initial here: _____

- Research and anecdotal evidence indicate that chronic stress and trauma can have an impact on a developing foetus and can trigger or exacerbate complex health symptoms, if left unaddressed. Also, a person's resilience can sometimes be diminished as a result of adversity, serious health issues, or the physical and emotional effort of pregnancy, resulting in greater vulnerability or a reduced capacity to explore complex topics without feeling overwhelmed. The opposite may also be true, where attending such a training may result in learning additional skills that help reduce such impacts and support resilience. If you have significant unresolved trauma, are currently facing a crisis, are pregnant, have recently had surgery that you are still recovering from, are experiencing symptoms from a head injury or other injury, or have other serious health conditions, we encourage you to discuss the training with a qualified health care provider prior to either confirming or postponing your involvement. Participation in practice rounds or demonstrations may be limited or adapted accordingly by the training team if someone discloses a concern of this nature.

Initial here: _____

Farm Settings, Animals, and Livestock

- Equines are powerful animals that may jump, run, buck, kick, bite, nip, or step on people or objects, resulting in destruction of property, physical injury, permanent disability, or death. Care and awareness must be exercised around livestock, pets, and wildlife. Also, equipment may fail and weather or terrain conditions can change, which can be dangerous.

Initial here: _____

- In-person EQUUSOMA® events are usually held in rural locations. If injuries or illness occur, it may be a considerable distance to doctors, hospitals, or any other type of assistance.

Initial here: _____

- Appropriate clothing and protective footwear (sturdy, closed-toed shoes or boots) are required. Fashion footwear and open-toed sandals are not permitted when interacting with equines inside the fence. Experiences involving equines during EQUUSOMA® events mostly take place on the ground. Should any experience involve being on the back of an equine, a riding helmet is required. Local laws or facility rules may require that participants wear helmets around equines even when on the ground. Participants understand and agree to take responsibility for not wearing appropriate footwear, headgear, or clothing.

Initial here: _____

Communicable Diseases

- In-person EQUUSOMA® events with animals may expose people to communicable diseases, including zoonotic diseases, especially if these events are held at an international location that has particular risks for infection (which may require travel vaccinations).

Initial here: _____

- Anyone attending EQUUSOMA® events will follow any mandatory directives for standard precautions, personal safety, and public safety (including but not limited to exposure and self-isolation protocols) that the EQUUSOMA® team, health authorities, or governmental officials might implement between now and the end of any event pertaining to any epidemics, pandemics, natural disasters, inclement weather conditions, or other emergency situations. The program's format and requirements for completion may need to be adapted or an event might need to be postponed or rescheduled in these circumstances.

Initial here: _____

- At EQUUSOMA® events, masks are currently not required but anyone who wishes to wear one may do so. Physical distancing is encouraged, but may at times be difficult to implement fully due to the nature of these events. We will engage in appropriate cleaning and/or sanitizing of frequently touched areas and objects. However, we cannot guarantee that anyone will not contract COVID-19 or other communicable or zoonotic diseases.

Initial here: _____

- I agree that I will not attend an in-person event if I have either had (A) a positive COVID-19 test result, or (B) any of the following symptoms of illness in the week prior to the start of the event: fever, chills, shortness of breath, sore throat, difficulty breathing, or coughing. If any of these occur, I agree that I will only attend if I have a doctor's note confirming my recovery, a negative test result, or the recommended quarantine period has passed. If any such symptoms arise or if I test positive for COVID-19 or any other emergent illness of public health concern during an in-person event, I will advise the teaching team and immediately self-isolate. I understand that my

ability to continue to participate in the in-person event (even with accommodation) is not a guarantee, depends on several variables, and is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Initial here: _____

If I agree to participate in a demonstration, during experiential practice rounds in any capacity, in discussions, or in the program as a whole, I am doing so voluntarily and at my own risk. I will not hold Sarah Schlote and the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation and their related parties liable or responsible for injury or damage from my participation or involvement in any aspect of the program, and I accept that any result or no result may occur due to my participation or involvement. I understand that potential harm may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of others (human, equine, or other species) and/or myself. I confirm that I have read and considered the above risks and I freely and voluntarily assume any such risks as set out above, or any other risks which may not be presently known.

Initial here: _____

WAIVER AND INDEMNIFICATION

I will at all times indemnify and hold harmless Sarah Schlote and the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation and their officers, directors, agents, successors, and assigns (including facility owners and owners of participating equines and other animals) (collectively referred to as the **"Releasees"**) from and against any and all claims, actions, damages, costs, and expenses (including reasonable lawyers' fees) related to my acts or omissions in providing services using material learned during the EQUUSOMA® program as a student or in a professional capacity.

Initial here: _____

I agree to forever indemnify, release and hold harmless the Releasees from all claims, demands, causes of action, damages, losses, injuries, and expenses arising out of or resulting from my participation in the EQUUSOMA® program/events. I further agree to release, acquit and covenant not to claim against the Releasees for all actions, causes of actions, damages, or damages in law including negligence, or remedies in equity of whatever kind. I hereby waive any and all rights I may now or ever have to make any such claims. I hereby agree that if the Releasee is forced to defend any action, lawsuit or litigation initiated by me, my agents, successors, assigns or my executors or heirs whether on their own behalf or on my behalf, I agree to pay all associated legal fees, disbursements and costs on a full-indemnity basis.

Initial here: _____

The ability of a student to complete the program is subject to different variables, such as their own capacity or circumstances, course availability, availability of licensing and trademarks, availability of materials, availability of team members, functionality of the eLearning portal, etc. The Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation reserves the right to approve or deny requests to audit, defer, or change offerings or cohorts at its own discretion. The Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation shall not be deemed in breach of the Student Agreement if the student is unable to complete the program or any portion thereof by reason of fire, earthquake, labor dispute, epidemic or pandemic, act of God or public enemy, death, illness or incapacity of the student or team or any local, provincial, federal, national or international law, governmental order or regulation or any other event beyond the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation's control (collectively, **"Force Majeure Event"**). Upon occurrence of any Force Majeure Event, the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation shall give notice to the student of its inability to deliver (or of any delay in completing) the program and shall propose revisions to the schedule for completion of the program if possible. The Releasees will make reasonable efforts to make the program available but cannot make any guarantees due to variables outside their control.

Initial here: _____

In no event shall any liability of the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation, its officers, directors, employees, shareholders, agents, or representatives arising out of any claim related to the Student and Practitioner Agreement and the policies thereunder exceed the aggregate amount paid by the student to the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation on account of student and/or participation or registration fees for the EQUUSOMA® program. The Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation shall not be held liable for any losses or damages incurred by the student including lost wages, whether known or unknown, however incurred.

Initial here: _____

I confirm that I am fully capable of participating in activities involving humans and equines. I have read the above statement on some of the possible risks and feel that the possible benefits to myself are greater than the risks assumed. I also understand that no amount of caution, experience or instruction can eliminate all of the emotional and physical risks of participating in the program. I freely accept and fully assume all such risks.

Initial here: _____

I agree to be responsible managing my own safety and for voicing my needs and concerns in a timely manner. This in turn helps the team to support containment and regulation for the group and to more effectively address and navigate whatever might arise. I will inform the team of any limits with respect to my ability to safely engage in the event or specific activities, known to or reasonably foreseen by me, so that the team can support me to the best of their abilities.

Initial here: _____

I agree to inform the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation of any findings of misconduct or against me by any licensing, regulating, associative, or legal body, whether current or aged, within 14 days of learning of such finding (if applicable).

Initial here: _____

I confirm that this agreement is the only agreement between me and the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation regarding my participation in EQUUSOMA® events as a student and use of what was learned during the EQUUSOMA® program outside of the context of said events, and that this agreement supersedes any other similar agreement, and cannot be modified except in writing by the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation. This agreement is binding upon me and my heirs, executors, administrators, and legal representatives. This agreement is governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario (Canada) and any dispute arising from this agreement or my relationship with the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation shall be submitted to binding arbitration in the Province of Ontario. Any resulting decision may be entered and issued in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Initial here: _____

I acknowledge that the Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation reserves the right to approve or deny any application for a scholarship or to be a student, EQUUSOMA® Practitioner, assistant, approved provider, or faculty member, and may revoke approval at any time, and approve or deny the participation of any person at any event, in its sole and unfettered discretion, with or without cause, and in accordance with its policies and/or the law. I acknowledge and agree that any revocation of approval or right to participate in any event does not give rise to any losses or damages at law, and I further acknowledge and agree that I shall not commence any action, application, or claim, or attempt to recover any such losses or damages.

Informed consent is essential and part of my right to self-determination. I choose to participate in the EQUUSOMA® program and related events voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and I agree to all applicable policies, terms and conditions while a student in the program and/or when acting in a professional (paid or volunteer) capacity outside of any training or event.

Initial here: _____

I acknowledge that I have read this agreement in full, that I fully understand its terms and the risks associated therewith, that I agree to abide by the stipulations above, and that I have agreed voluntarily and freely without any inducement, assurance, guarantee or representation being made.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

EQUUSOMA® Audiovisual and Media Waiver and Release

Participants must review the Student and Practitioner Policies Handbook and its updated Addenda (the "Handbook") before agreeing to the following. If there is any inconsistency, the Handbook governs. An updated version of the Handbook, which is subject to change, is available at www.equusoma.com

Whereas, The Schlote Psychotherapy Professional Corporation (the "**Producer**") is engaged in a project (the "**EQUUSOMA® Program**"), and

Whereas, I (the "**Participant**"), have agreed and consented (by virtue of my registration in the EQUUSOMA® Program) to appear in Video Recordings or Photography that I have not opted out of (based on the policies and parameters outlined in the Handbook), and

Whereas, I understand that my voice, name, and image will be recorded by various mechanical and electrical means of all descriptions (such recordings, including photography and videography or any piece thereof, the contents therein and all reproductions thereof, along with the utilization of my name, shall be collectively referred to herein as the "**Released Subject Matter**");

Therefore, I hereby freely and without restraint consent to and give unto the Producer and its agents or authorized representatives (collectively referred to herein as the "**Releasees**") the limited right in perpetuity to own, utilize, or alter the Released Subject Matter as outlined below.

1. Governing Document

This Audiovisual Waiver and Release ("the **Release**") is subordinate to the Handbook. Nothing in this Release creates any rights in favor of the Producer that exceed what is permitted by the Handbook. Where the Handbook and this policy conflict, the Handbook prevails.

2. Nature and Purpose of Recordings

Video recordings within the EQUUSOMA® Program occur as follows:

- **Level 1 Theory Modules:** Pre-recorded with student consent.
- **Level 1 Practice Modules (online):** Portions that take place in the main group room are recorded live (including but not limited to lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and debriefings). Breakout practice rounds are not filmed or photographed.
- **Level 1 Bonus Features (online Q&A and demonstrations):** Recorded live.
- **Level 2 Theory Modules:** Pre-recorded with student consent.
- **Level 2 Practice Modules (in person):** Recorded live when videography is available (including but not limited to lectures, discussion, demonstrations involving humans and/or equines or other species, and debriefing). Breakout practice rounds are generally not recorded unless students are comfortable with it and their consent has been provided. Recordings at live in person modules may also include photography captured by participating students, team members, or professionals or volunteers whose role is to document the event via photo and video (see section 5 below).
- **Specialty Offerings:** Additional offerings (such as but not limited to specialty topic webinars or seminars geared towards EQUUSOMA® students, graduates, and team members) may be recorded as described above, depending on whether the offering is online or in person.

The purpose of the video recordings is primarily to support student and graduate learning and integration of the material. Video recordings also support team member training and development. The purpose of photography is educational (such as enhancing video recordings or serving as a reference during training modules) and marketing (such as illustrating email newsletters and social media posts).

3. Participation Requires Limited Consent

Video recording consent is a condition of participation in the EQUUSOMA® program. Participants acknowledge that complete exclusion from video recordings (whether recorded online or in person) cannot be guaranteed and that editing the Participant out of all appearances may not be technically possible. Participants who are not comfortable with this may decline enrollment. Photography consent is not a condition of participation in the EQUUSOMA® program and participants may opt out of being in photographs (see section 5 below).

4. Scope of Consent (Strictly Limited)

By participating, I consent only to recording in the manner described in the Handbook and this Release. Consent to using the video recordings is limited to internal program use, training and educational materials available via the portal, program delivery and professional development, and the internal video library (under development). I understand that access to training content and the video library in the portal is or will be available to any EQUUSOMA® Level 1 and 2 student or graduate when enrolled in the Program or via separate subscription when their original access period has ended, as well as to EQUUSOMA® staff and training assistants.

This Release does not grant authorization for use of the video recordings in advertising, marketing, public distribution, or commercial resale to external third parties. Use of video recordings beyond the limited scope of consent described above requires separate written permission. This Release grants authorization for the educational, advertising, and marketing use of photographs as described above.

5. Participant Control & Mitigation

Online participants may mute their video or change their display name following attendance verification to avoid being visible in any video recordings or in any screen shots that may be taken by team members or leave before a screenshot is taken (e.g., such as a group photo that might be taken at the end of an online offering). However, during online breakout sessions (which are not recorded or photographed), participants must unmute video and remain visible for attendance and participation purposes, except for any setup instructions and preferences discussed during the practice rounds.

All participants who attend EQUUSOMA®-related offerings can decide for themselves what they feel comfortable sharing or disclosing given that (a) the offerings are delivered in a group setting and confidentiality is never a guarantee, (b) these are educational offerings and not psychotherapy, and they might not be the appropriate context for certain disclosures, and (c) the offerings will or may be recorded on video.

In-person participants may opt out of photo opportunities (e.g., group photos) or may position themselves to be out of the camera's view to either prevent being visible in photos, or limit their appearance in photos and/or videos (such as appearing peripherally or from behind).

6. No Blanket Waiver

This Release does not waive statutory privacy rights, permit misuse or modification of identity, assign ownership of likeness, or eliminate protections under Ontario and Canadian law. Any release of liability is limited to lawful use only, as outlined in this Release.

7. Withdrawal of Consent (Prospective Only)

Students may withdraw consent for future recordings in accordance with the Student Policy Handbook. However, students acknowledge and agree that: recordings created while consent was valid cannot be retroactively invalidated; past recordings cannot be altered or deleted; and withdrawal of consent does not affect lawful prior use. If a student withdraws consent and future recording cannot reasonably be avoided, continued participation in the program may no longer be possible. The most recent version of the Payment and Refund Policy applies.

8. Waiver and Release

I hereby acknowledge that the Released Subject Matter is the property of the Producer and authorize the Releasees and grant unto them the irrevocable unrestrained rights to utilize the Released Subject Matter as described above.

I agree to release and forever discharge the Releasees, in their individual and/or corporate capacities, from any and all claims, liabilities, obligations, promises, agreements, disputes, demands, damages, causes of action of any nature or kind, known or unknown, which I, and anyone claiming on behalf of me, may have or claim to have against the Releasees in connection with the Released Subject Matter. This includes any causes of action in law or equity I may have or may hereafter acquire against the Releasees for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, copyright or trademark violation, right of publicity, or false light arising out of or in connection with the utilization by the Releasees or another of the Released Subject Matter.

It is my intention that there is no compensation that I am entitled to receive in connection with any and all described usages of the Released Subject Matter. This Release shall be governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario and the federal law of Canada, as applicable.

I hereby certify that I am over the age of eighteen, and that I have read, understood, and agreed to the foregoing. By participating, I confirm that I have read the Handbook, this Release and its stipulated policies are subordinate to the Handbook, and that my consent is limited accordingly.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____