



Empowering Children of Incarcerated Parents

RISE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Quick Facts

Who is eligible to apply for the Scholarship Program?

Any student, who lives in Rhode Island, has a biological parent who is currently incarcerated or has been incarcerated in the past, and wants to attend a middle school or high school that requires tuition.

What does it mean to be accepted into the Scholarship Program?

If accepted, RISE provides tuition assistance of \$4,000 per year to offset the family contribution. This money is paid directly to the school and continues every year until middle and high school graduation, provided the student remains in good standing with the program.

What other support does RISE provide once accepted into the Scholarship Program?

RISE Scholars receive uniform and textbook assistance up to \$300 annually, and when needed, RISE covers the cost of technology, transportation and lunch to ensure full participation in school.

All RISE Scholars are required to have a mentor throughout high school. RISE will match the student with an adult mentor if needed. As well, RISE Scholars are visited by RISE staff at least twice a year to check on progress.

What does the Scholarship Program NOT cover?

The RISE Scholarship does not cover: Tuition obligation over \$4,000, registration fees, non-uniform school clothing or gym clothes, school fund-raising fees, after-school day care programs, supplies/equipment for athletic or other extracurricular activities, entrance exam fees or application fees.

Once school begins, how is RISE involved?

RISE staff visit Scholars at school a minimum of two times per school year. During these visits, students will be asked to share their experiences at school, complete surveys for RISE data collection, and will write thank you notes to sponsors who are providing tuition support. Students will also be photographed from time to time to update their file records. RISE also receives copies of progress reports, report cards, and any other correspondence directly from the school. RISE staff is also available to support to families around any issue related to the best possible outcomes for the student's education.

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How does a RISE Scholar remain in good standing with the Scholarship Program?

RISE has set attendance and academic standards by which students will be assessed quarterly (or by trimester depending on the school's grading system). If a student has extreme absenteeism, tardiness, low grades, or poor behavior they will be placed on academic or behavioral probation. RISE will discuss the terms of probation with schools and caregivers to compose a contract with strategies supporting improvement in his/her grades, attendance and behavior.

Attendance: A student may have no more than 4 absences and 4 tardies per quarter without a doctor's note excusing them from school.

Conduct Record: 75% of a RISE student's conduct marks must be at or above the "Satisfactory" category.

- **Reported Grades:** A student must demonstrate that he/she is performing to the best of his/her ability. **Students will maintain a grade of C or higher in each class.** If a student's grade drops below a C, then RISE staff will place the student on academic probation. If the student does not improve his/her grades by the next report card, then the student will remain on academic probation for the remainder of the year.

If a student remains on probation (academic, behavior or attendance) for longer than one academic year, RISE reserves the right to revoke his/her scholarship.

A teacher or administrator should never use the RISE scholarship as a threat to you or your student. If this happens, please report the incident to RISE staff. The school does not determine who receives a scholarship. However, schools can ask any student (even a RISE student) to leave the school if their grades or behavior are not meeting that school's standard. If a student is asked to leave school in the middle of the year or the end of the school year, then the student's record will be evaluated by RISE. When possible, RISE will assist in relocating the student to another high quality school. RISE reserves the right to revoke a scholarship from a student who is expelled. RISE will review all of the evidence leading up to the expulsion before making a final decision to revoke a scholarship.

I have more questions!

Please contact Kaitlin Della Grotta, Academic Coordinator, at 401.421.2010 or by email at kdellagrotta@riseonline.org.