Congratulations on your acceptance to River Valley Community College!

Enclosed is information – including an Application, sample Contract and Essay Form – about Project RISE, the college’s single parent/displaced homemaker program.

Please note: You must complete a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) before applying for Project RISE. (www.fafsa.gov)

The following forms must be completed and returned:
- two (2) page application (both sides)
- application essay
- a copy of your acceptance letter from the college

KEEP the following for your records:
- copies of all of the above
- the description of Project RISE
- the sample contract so that you will understand what your responsibilities are. If accepted into the program, you will need to sign a contract for each academic year.

Please read all of this information thoroughly!

Once you complete and submit your application for Project RISE, including your essay and financial information, I will contact you to discuss your educational goals and objectives, and the requirements for participation in Project RISE.

Congratulations!

Valerie Mahar
Vice President of Student Affairs & Community Relations
603-542-7744, 800-837-0658
www.rivervalley.edu
Frequently Asked Questions about ProjectRISE

What is Project RISE?

Project RISE is an RVCC-grant program designated to provide personal and academic support services and financial assistance beyond traditional financial aid programs to students who are matriculated and enrolled in programs at the college.

Who is Project RISE Designed to Help?

This project is designed to assist individuals defined as Single Parents, Single Pregnant Women, and Displaced Homemakers. A SINGLE PARENT is an individual who is unmarried or legally separated from a spouse, and has custody or joint custody of a minor child or children. A DISPLACED HOMEMAKER is an individual who is an adult and has worked primarily without remuneration to care for home, family, and for that reason has diminished marketable skills.

Who Can Apply? Who Is Eligible?

Individuals defined as single parents, single pregnant women, and displaced homemakers who are matriculated and enrolled in degree and certificate programs at River Valley Community College; and, who have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA - www.fafasa.gov).

What Can Project RISE Pay For?

Project Rise provides financial assistance above and beyond the financial aid programs in place. It will fund education-related expenses such as: tuition and fees, books and some supplies (such as uniforms and other affiliation-related expenses), childcare, and travel.

How Can I Apply?

Those interested in and qualifying for this grant must complete the following forms. These are available at the college, except for Title XX childcare forms, which can be obtained from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

1. Financial Aid Forms and related materials
2. An application for Project RISE is available
3. Application for the Title XX funds, if childcare is part of a student’s expenses

These forms are returned to the Financial Aid Office or the director of the project. Applicants will be contacted with additional information by the director of Project RISE, Valerie Mahar.

Do You Still Have Questions?

For further information, call River Valley Community College: (603) 542-7744 or (800) 837-0658 (in NH and VT) and ask for the Financial Aid Office or Valerie Mahar (ext. 5320).
Visit the college website at www.rivervalley.edu and click on Financial Aid, Single Parent Program or email Valerie Mahar at vmahar@ccsnh.edu

A copy of the PROJECT RISE CONTRACT

As a recipient of Project RISE funding, I understand and agree to the following terms:

- I will attend two college-sponsored workshops on academic or personal growth issues per semester.
- I will regularly check my mailbox for notices and act promptly on them when requested.
- If eligible, I will bill the State of New Hampshire for Title XX Childcare reimbursement before using any childcare funding awarded by Project RISE.
- I will use any excess Pell Grant funds for educational expenses.
- I will use and excel Pell Grant funds for educational expenses.
- I will exhaust my Health and Human Services book allowance prior to using Project Rise book and supply funding.
- I understand I will not be eligible for Project RISE funding if my grade point average should fall below the mandatory requirements as set forth by Federal Financial Aid Guidelines and/or by the College Student Handbook.
- I will attend classes on a regular basis, complying with my instructors’ attendance policies.
- I will meet with the Project RISE Director to discuss any academic warnings I might receive.
- I will notify the Project RISE director of any changes in marital status, address, or telephone number.
- I will schedule an exit interview with the Project RISE Director in the event that I choose to withdraw from the college.
- I agree to comply with the above statements and understand my responsibilities and commitments in pursuing my education. If any of these terms are violated, I understand that my funds from Project RISE may be discontinued at the discretion of the Project RISE Director and/or the RISE Committee.

Date: ______________________________

Student Name and Signature:  ________________________________________________________________

Project RISE Director:  ________________________________________________________________

Valerie Mahar
APPLICATION – PROJECT RISE

Please print clearly and return to Valerie Mahar, Vice President Student Services
River Valley Community College, 1 College Place, Claremont, NH 03743

Date: ___________________ for the academic year of ___________________

Name: ____________________

Last    First    Middle Initial

Address: ____________________ ____________________

Street    City    State    Zip Code

Telephone Number(s): (___) ____________________________  Home

Telephone Number(s): (___) ____________________________  Work

Telephone Number(s): (___) ____________________________  Cell/Message

Email Address: ____________________@students.ccsnh.edu

Assigned RVCC student email address

Social Security Number: ____________________ Date of Birth: ____________________

Sex: ____________________ Race: ____________________ Marital Status: Married □ Divorced □ Separated □ Single □

1. Education Level:

   a. High School Graduate or G.E.D.  d. Bachelor’s Degree
   b. Post High School Education  e. Vocational Skills
   c. Associate Degree  f. Other:

   Training

   Most Recent Educational Experience: ____________________

2. Total number of children:

   Number of dependent children:  

   a. 0-5 years  
   b. 5-13 years  
   c. 14-18 years

   Number of other dependents: ______

   Are you head-of-household?  __Yes  __No

3. Cash Income Level from all Sources:

   a. 0-5,000  
   b. 5,001-10,000  
   c. 10,001-15,000

   d. 15,001-20,000  
   e. over 20,000
4. Sources of Income (check all that apply):
   a. ___Social Security   f. ___Child Support   k. ___Other:
   b. ___TANF           g. ___Alimony
   c. ___Public Assistance other than TANF  h. ___Food Stamps  
   d. ___Salary         i. ___Medicaid
   e. ___Unemployment Benefits  j. ___Disability

5. Employment
   Are you employed? ___Yes   ___No   ___Full-Time   ___Part-Time
                        ___Permanent   ___Temporary
   Is your spouse/domestic partner employed? ___Yes   ___No

6. Work History
   a. ___Number of years as a homemaker   ___Number of years employed part-time
   b. ___Number of years employed full—time

7. Type of Employment:
   Name/Type of Company          Position Held          Years
   Employed________________________
   _______________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

8. Student Statistics at River Valley
   a. ___Currently Applying to River Valley   Program Name____________________
   b. ___Already Accepted on _____________ Program Name____________________ Date
      PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

9. Support Services Requested:
   ___Child/Dependent Care  ___Personal Support Services
   ___Transportation       ___Academic Support Services
   ___Tuition Assistance   ___Referral to Other Agencies
   ___Books and Supplies
10. How did you hear about this project?

___Newspaper ___Friend/Relative ___Radio ___Brochure
___College Personnel ___Web ___Social Service Agency

In addition to this form, applicants are encouraged to file (1) Financial Aid Form and related materials (2) An application for Title XX funds if childcare is a part of a student’s expenses.

**APPLICANT INCOME AND RESOURCES**

To be completed by the applicant.

My estimated expenses and resources for myself (and my dependent children and spouse, if applicable for the academic year____________________________________ are as follows:

An academic year is fall/spring/summer, so please list year above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition $_________</td>
<td>Wages $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees $_________</td>
<td>Personal Savings $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books/Supplies $_________</td>
<td>Aid from Spouse $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms $_________</td>
<td>Aid from Parent/Guardian $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing $_________</td>
<td>Aid from other Relatives $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(including utilities)</td>
<td>Aid from Friends $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food $_________</td>
<td>Veteran Benefits $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation $_________</td>
<td>Social Security Benefits $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Gas, repairs, but NOT car payments)</td>
<td>TANF/ANC $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance $_________</td>
<td>Food Stamps $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing $_________</td>
<td>Title XX (childcare) $______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical/Dental $_________</td>
<td>Scholarships/loans already</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childcare $_________</td>
<td>awarded (Please list)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal $_________</td>
<td>$_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Costs $_________</td>
<td>Other Resources $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Please itemize)</td>
<td>(Please itemize) $_________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENSES**$_________ **TOTAL RESOURCES** $_________

CERTIFICATION: All of the above information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

_________________________________________________________________

(Signature) ____________________________________________ (Date)
PROJECT RISE APPLICATION ESSAY

Please provide the following information in as much detail as you think necessary to answer the questions.

*Why do you want to attend River Valley Community College? What are your short-term goals as you begin, and what might your long-term goals be when you finish your program here at River Valley? (Please use a computer/word processor if possible; otherwise, please write legibly.)*