

PROJECT RISE

RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 1 COLLEGE PLACE, CLAREMONT, NH 03743

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)
- One page Income and Resources sheet
- 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!

Julia Dower
Financial Aid Director
Project Rise Coordinator
603-542-7744 Ext. 5310 or 800-837-0658 Ext. 5310
jdower@ccsnh.edu
www.rivervalley.edu

July 2017 (jvd/pal)

Frequently Asked Questions about Project RISE

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. No other adult can be living in the household with the applicant. 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: 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 coordinator of Project RISE, Julia Dower. Applicants will be contacted with additional information once the application has been reviewed.

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 Julia Dower (x5310).

Visit the college website at www.rivervalley.edu and click on Financial Aid, Single Parent Program or email Julia Dower at www.jdower@ccsnh.edu

A SAMPLE 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 or community sponsored workshops on academic or personal growth issues per semester.
- I will regularly check my email and Blackboard 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 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 Coordinator to discuss any academic warnings I might receive.
- I will notify the Project RISE Coordinator of any changes in marital status, address, or telephone number.
- I will schedule an exit interview with the Project RISE Coordinator 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 Coordinator and/or the RISE Committee.

Date: _____

Student Name and Signature: THIS IS A SAMPLE AND NOT AN ACTUAL CONTRACT!

Project RISE Coordinator: _____
Julia Dower

Once your application has been reviewed and accepted, you will be given an actual contract to sign.

APPLICATION – PROJECT RISE

Please print clearly and return to:
Julia Dower, Financial Aid Director and Project RISE Coordinator
River Valley Community College, 1 College Place, Claremont, NH 03743

Date: _____ for 2017-2018 Academic Year

Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Telephone Number(s): (____) _____): (____) _____
Home Work

Telephone Number(s): (____) _____
Cell/Message

RVCC Student Email Address: _____@students.ccsnh.edu
(Assigned *RVCC student email address*)

Social Security Number: _____ - _____ - _____ Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____

Gender: _____ Race: _____ Marital Status: Married Divorced
Separated Single

1. Education Level Completed:

- a. ____ High School Graduate or ____ G.E.D. Year Received: _____
- b. ____ Post High School Education (non-degree)
- c. ____ Vocational Skills Training
- d. ____ Associate Degree – Major: _____
- e. ____ Bachelor Degree – Major: _____
- f. ____ Other: _____

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
- d. ____ 18-22 years
- e. ____ over 22 years

Number of other dependents: _____ Are you head-of-household? ____ Yes ____ No

3. Cash Income Level from all Sources Per Year:

- 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
- b. ____ TANF
- c. ____ Public Assistance other than TANF
- d. ____ Salary/Wages
- e. ____ Unemployment Benefits
- f. ____ Child Support
- g. ____ Alimony
- h. ____ Food Stamps
- i. ____ Medicaid
- j. ____ Disability
- k. ____ Other: _____

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
- b. Number of years employed full-time
- c. Number of years employed part-time

7. Type of Employment:

<u>Name/Type of Company</u>	<u>Position Held</u>	<u>Years Employed & Dates</u>

8. Student Statistics at River Valley

- a. Currently Applying to River Valley Program Name: _____
- b. Already Accepted (date): _____ Program Name: _____

PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

9. Support Services Requested:

- Child/Dependent Care Expenses
- Transportation Expenses
- Tuition Assistance
- Books and Supplies
- Personal Support Services
- Academic Support Services
- Referral to Other Agencies

10. How did you hear about this project?

- Newspaper
- College Personnel
- Friend/Relative
- Web
- Radio
- Social Service Agency
- Brochure

11. Assistance Documentation

In addition to the following Income and Resources Form, applicants are urged to file an application for Title XX funds if childcare is a part of student's expenses.

APPLICANT INCOME AND RESOURCES

To be completed by the applicant

My estimated expenses and resources for myself and my dependent children for the 2017-2018 Academic Year are as follows:

(2017-2018 Academic Year is from August 28, 2017 through May 4, 2018 therefore you will be reporting expenses and resources for 9 months.)

1. EXPENSES

Tuition	\$ _____
Fees	\$ _____
Books/Supplies	\$ _____
Uniforms	\$ _____
Mortgage	\$ _____
Rent (full cost w/o subsidy)	\$ _____
Power & Heat	\$ _____
Telephone/Cell	\$ _____
Cable/Satellite	\$ _____
Food	\$ _____
Clothing	\$ _____
Car Reg & Insurance	\$ _____
Car (Gas & Repairs)	\$ _____
Med/Dental Insurance	\$ _____
Doctor/Dental Exp	\$ _____
Prescriptions	\$ _____
Childcare	\$ _____
Child Support	\$ _____
Alimony	\$ _____
Other Costs, Please Itemize:	
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

2. RESOURCES

Wages	\$ _____
Personal Savings	\$ _____
Child Support	\$ _____
Alimony	\$ _____
Social Security Benefits	\$ _____
SSI	\$ _____
Veteran Benefits - Tuition	\$ _____
Veterans Benefits – BAH	\$ _____
Rent Subsidy	\$ _____
Medicaid	\$ _____
TANF	\$ _____
SNAP (Food Stamps)	\$ _____
Fuel Assistance	\$ _____
Free/Reduced School Lunches	\$ _____
Title XX Childcare	\$ _____
HHS Book Allowance	\$ _____
Aid from Spouse/Ex	\$ _____
Aid from Parent/Guardian	\$ _____
Aid from other Relatives	\$ _____
Aid from Friends	\$ _____
Scholarships Awarded	\$ _____
Education Loans Approved	\$ _____
Unemployment Benefits	\$ _____
Other Resources, Please Itemize:	
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

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 reflect on each of the following questions and answer them in significant detail.

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? How will Project RISE help you attain your goals? What do you have to offer River Valley Community College and Project RISE?

(Please use a computer/word processor if possible; otherwise, please write legibly.)