

RISE Prep Academy

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is RISE Prep Academy?

RISE Prep Academy is an innovative homeschool co-op and microschool designed to provide a nontraditional pathway for young men to achieve academic excellence, leadership development, and transformative enrichment opportunities.

Who does RISE Prep Academy serve?

RISE Prep Academy serves young men in grades 6–8. For the Fall of 2027, we will start with 25-6th graders and a new cohort every year after that. We are committed to creating an environment where every student is known, challenged, supported, and prepared for success in high school and beyond.

What makes RISE Prep Academy different?

Unlike traditional schools, our smaller learning environment allows us to focus on each student's individual strengths and needs.

Our students benefit from:

- Small class sizes.
- Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs).
- Daily mentorship and leadership development.
- Project-based learning.
- Entrepreneurship and life skills.
- Strong family partnerships.
- Daily transformative enrichment opportunities.

Why is the school focused on young men?

Research continues to show that many young men, particularly Black boys, thrive when learning in environments intentionally designed to support their academic, social, emotional, and leadership development. Our mission is to help every student discover who they are, what they are capable of, and how they can positively impact their community.

Who can apply?

RISE Prep Academy welcomes families who are seeking a personalized, high-expectations learning environment for their son.

What curriculum does RISE Prep Academy use?

Our curriculum meets academic standards while incorporating:

- Literacy and mathematics
- Science and technology
- History and social studies
- Entrepreneurship
- Financial literacy
- Leadership development
- Social-emotional learning
- Project-based learning
- College and career readiness

What is an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP)?

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Every student receives an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) that identifies academic goals, strengths, areas for growth, and personal interests. This allows instruction to be tailored to help each student reach his full potential. Our Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) is created in partnership with students, family, and RISE Prep Academy.

How do you support students who need extra academic help?

Every student receives the support they need through:

- Personalized instruction
- Small-group interventions
- One-on-one academic coaching
- Frequent progress monitoring
- Family communication
- Enrichment opportunities for advanced learners

How does RISE Prep Academy handle discipline?

We are a no suspension school.

Our approach is built on accountability, restoration, and growth. Rather than simply punishing behavior, we help students understand their choices, repair relationships, and develop the skills necessary to make better decisions in the future.

What are the school hours?

Our school hours are 8:30am to 3:30pm.

- Daily Schedule (Monday-Thursday):
 - 8:30am - 9:00am - Brotherhood Community Circle (Check-in/Meditation)
 - 9:00am - 10:30am - Academic Time
 - Monday/Wednesday - English
 - Tuesday/Thursday - Science
 - 10:30am - 10:45am - Break
 - 10:45am - 12:15pm - Academic Time
 - Monday/Wednesday - Math
 - Tuesday/Thursday - Social Studies
 - 12:15pm - 1:00pm - Lunch
 - 1:30pm - 3:00pm - Enrichment Programming (Off-Site)
 - Monday/Wednesday - Library
 - Tuesday/Thursday - Physical Education/Strength and Fitness
 - 3:30pm - Dismissal
- Friday Schedule
 - 8:30am - 9:00am - Brotherhood Community Circle (Check-in/Meditation)
 - 9:00am - 12:00pm - Service Learning Project/Field Study/Capstone Project Prep
 - 12:15pm - 1:00pm - Lunch
 - 1:30pm - 3:00pm - Community Guest Speaker
 - 3:30pm - Dismissal
- Extended Hours:
 - 7:00am-8:30am - Early Brotherhood Gathering.
 - 3:30pm-6:00pm - Afterschool Brotherhood Gathering.
- Our extended hours are free of charge and are available from anyone enrolled in RISE Prep Academy.

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Our school day is designed to balance rigorous academics with leadership development, enrichment opportunities, physical activity, and mentorship.

Is transportation provided?

We will not provide transportation that is why we have our extended hours to help accommodate families

Are meals provided?

Breakfast, lunch, and afterschool snacks are available.

Is there a school uniform?

Yes. Students wear a school uniform that promotes school pride, unity, professionalism, and a positive learning environment.

How do you ensure student safety?

Student safety is our highest priority. We maintain secure entry procedures, visitor check-in policies, emergency preparedness plans, and a culture built on respect, accountability, and positive relationships.

How do you communicate with parents?

Families receive regular communication through:

- Parent conferences
- Progress reports
- Phone calls and emails
- School newsletters
- Parent communication platform
- Individual Learning Plan updates

What role do parents play?

Parents are our partners in education. We encourage families to:

- Attend school events and conferences
- Support homework and reading at home
- Volunteer when possible
- Maintain regular communication with teachers

What if my son has struggled in school before?

RISE Prep Academy was created to meet students where they are. Whether your son needs additional academic support, increased confidence, stronger relationships, or greater engagement, we are committed to helping him grow academically, socially, emotionally, and as a leader.

Do you accept students with 504 Plans or Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)?

Yes, we do. We will meet regularly with the students' home school district to ensure goals are being met.

Will my son have opportunities beyond the classroom?

Absolutely! Students participate in:

- Leadership development
- Community service

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- Entrepreneurship experiences
- Educational field trips
- College visits
- Career exploration
- Guest speakers
- Cultural experiences
- Mentorship opportunities

How do you prepare students for high school and beyond?

Our goal is to develop well-rounded young men who leave RISE Prep Academy with:

- Strong academic skills
- Leadership abilities
- Confidence
- Critical thinking skills
- Effective communication
- Character
- A clear vision for their future

What is the cost of tuition?

Tuition & Financial Assistance:

Annual tuition is \$6,000 per student. We believe in providing an exceptional educational experience that is both affordable and transformative. Your tuition is an investment that directly covers:

- **Personalized Education:** Individualized learning plans tailored to your son's strengths.
- **Small Class Sizes:** Dedicated, impactful attention from educators.
- **Holistic Development:** Meditation practices, life skills development, and direct mentorship.
- **Enrichment Activities:** Experiential learning through strategic off-site partnerships.
- **All-Inclusive:** All educational field trips and event transportation included.

Flexible Payment Options:

To make a RISE Prep Academy education accessible to as many families as possible, we offer flexible monthly payment plans. We are committed to working with you to find a schedule that fits your household budget.

Scholarships & Tuition Assistance:

We firmly believe that finances should never prevent a young man from receiving a transformative education.

To support our community, RISE Prep Academy offers need-based scholarships and tuition assistance for qualifying families.

- **Eligibility:** Awards are determined based on documented financial need and available funding.
- **How to Apply:** Families can apply for assistance during the admissions process by completing our standard scholarship application.

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What is the admissions process?

Phase 1: The Application Process:

1. **Submit Interest Form:** Complete the online interest form to initiate your application.
2. **Attend Family Meeting:** Participate in a scheduled meeting with our Executive Director and Academic Coordinator.
3. **Provide Recommendations:** Submit two letters of recommendation (one from a teacher and one from a community member).
4. **Receive Decision:** Your admission decision will be sent via email once all application requirements are fulfilled.

Phase 2: Post-Acceptance Enrollment:

1. **Complete Enrollment via Jupiter:** Once accepted, you will receive an email with login access to Jupiter to upload your required enrollment documents and finalize registration.

When should I apply?

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until all available seats are filled. Because enrollment is intentionally limited, families are encouraged to apply early.

When will enrollment open?

Enrollment dates and application information will be posted on our website and shared through our communication channels. Families are encouraged to join our interest list to receive updates.

Why should I choose RISE Prep Academy?

At RISE Prep Academy, your son is more than a student—he is a future leader.

Our mission is to educate, equip, and empower young men through rigorous academics, personalized instruction, mentorship, leadership development, and character education. Every student is known, valued, challenged, and prepared to thrive in high school, college, careers, and life.

We don't simply prepare young men for the next grade—we prepare them to lead with purpose, resilience, integrity, scholarship, and impact.