

R.I.S.E PROGRAM

The Burt and Cuming County school district offers R.I.S.E (recognizing the importance of school engagement) program is offered for youth who are referred to the juvenile service office due to excessive absenteeism. This program is designed to reconnect youth to the school environment through positive academic and attendance interventions. The R.I.S.E program also serves as an alternative program that can help deter court proceedings if necessary. Successful completion could allow the youth's truancy petition or referral to be dismissed.

GOALS OF R.I.S.E PROGRAM ARE:

1. To develop and implement an absenteeism plan addressing the individual youth's reasons for excessive absenteeism.
2. To develop and implement a service plan to assist and increase parental/guardian involvement and responsibility in regard to the youth's absenteeism.
3. To promote accountability and engagement of youth within the schools by partnering with schools, parents, and community agencies without the involvement of court.

R.I.S.E PROGRAM AGREEMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Family participation is required for the successful completion of the R.I.S.E Program.
2. Family shall make every effort to ensure youth is attending school daily and on time.
3. Family will contact R.I.S.E program immediately upon youth not attending school or being late for school.
4. In the event of an illness that prevents the youth from attending school, please notify the school. Youth will not be allowed to leave the home during illness unless it is for an emergency, or to visit a doctor. Proper documentation must be presented to school and R.I.S.E staff to verify why youth were gone from school.
5. All dental, health and wellness appointments will be made to the best of the parent's and physician's ability and availability outside of school hours.
6. Family will keep all appointments with R.I.S.E program and participate in all home visits scheduled, if needed.
7. Family will make every effort to return R.I.S.E program telephone calls as directed.
8. Family will attend all recommended programs implemented in youth absenteeism plan and/or parent service plan. (Including tutoring, therapy etc.)
9. Family will be required to sign all release paperwork needed to best work with youth. This may include education information and medical information.

R.I.S.E PROGRAM STRUCTURE:

1. Monitoring of youth's progress will consist of One (1) weekly visit (face to face/phone) to the family and/or student(s). In addition, there may be school visits, and phone contact with both family and school officials as needed. The amount of contact and visits can vary by family request, youth needs, and overall program success.
2. A weekly check of youth's attendance will take place. R.I.S.E staff will maintain current information about the youth's progress, regardless of number of personal visits.
3. If needed, youth shall provide a completed education progress report signed by all teachers to program staff that will be due at the end of each week.
4. The R.I.S.E program will provide the Cuming County Attorney with a memorandum detailing youth's performance while on the program. If needed due to lack of cooperation, memorandums may be sent to these professionals at any time requesting the court's attention to the matter.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:

1. Youth are responsible for their school attendance and will be accountable for their whereabouts if attendance during a class period(s) is in question. Youth questioned on their attendance for any given time will be responsible for acquiring the necessary documentation to verify their school presence.
2. Youth will **work to maintain passing grades and to improve attendance.** In the event a youth receives disciplinary consequences, the family will immediately notify the R.I.S.E. program, by text or email.
3. In an event a youth receives consequences from school such as an out of school suspension that cannot be served in the school facilities, youth shall call the R.I.S.E program immediately.
4. Youth will remain substance free. Consumption of any alcoholic beverages and/or illegal narcotics is not allowed. Drug and alcohol testing may be performed randomly at the request of the R.I.S.E. program. Youth must submit to any test. In the event any drug or alcohol test provided indicates illegal use, consequence(s) will be issued.

MEDICAL:

All physical and mental health diagnoses must be provided to the R.I.S.E program, including a list of up-to-date medications.

TRANSPORTATION:

Parent/guardian and or youth shall be responsible for transportation to and from school and all meetings set with the school or R.I.S.E. program.

CONSEQUENCES THAT MAY BE ISSUED:

1. Youth will write a brief paper regarding why education is important.
2. Memo will be provided to county attorney advising youth's status as unsuccessful.

TERMINATION OF PROGRAM:

Youth may be terminated from the R.I.S.E program for the following behaviors:

- Non-compliance with program's rules/expectations.
- Continued absences from school.
- Failure to maintain passing grades.
- Removal from youth home.
- Family moves out of R.I.S.E program jurisdiction.
- Substance abuse issues that need further attention by the court.
- Physical or sexual confrontation or harassment toward others.
- Any behavior that the R.I.S.E. staff determines to be inappropriate and/or any youth that is not taking advantage of the opportunity the program provides.

