



Optional Flexible School Day Program – Weatherford ISD RISE Academy

1. Program Goals and Objectives

RISE supports identified at-risk students who have extenuating circumstances requiring a flexible school day. The goal of the program is to target those students who are unable to attend school in a traditional setting, for example, because the student must seek employment to support their family, or must provide childcare during traditional school hours.

2. Schedule

The RISE Academy follows the Weatherford ISD calendar. The first day of school is August 13, 2025 and the last day of school is May 20, 2026. The program is offered in two sessions: AM - 7:35 – 11:45 and PM: 11:50 – 4:00 (250 minutes per session). Students are able to attend one session or both sessions.

3. Staff Plan

The RISE Academy contact hours are 7:15 - 4:15 daily and RISE Academy includes the following staff positions and resource personnel:

- Coordinator
- Specialist
- Secretary
- 4 teachers (1 teacher per core content and all are SPED Certified)
- 1 para

4. Student Identification

The RISE program is for students in grades 10-12 who are at risk of not graduating and meet the state recognized at-risk criteria; in addition, these students are falling behind in credits for their grade level. Applications are available to parents, students, and WHS counselors, and once an application is completed the student and parent will interview and attend an orientation with the RISE staff to go over the expectations and develop a plan for academic progress.

5. Students served by Teacher

RISE will have one instructor provided for each 28 students, and the RISE Academy teachers are certified in core content areas.

6. Special Education / CTE

Students that are served through special education receive services through the core teachers who are certified in special education. For CTE courses, WISD utilizes online courses based on the students' endorsement. If a student requires SPED services, the SPED department provides the extra services for the OFSDP students.

7. Student Attendance

- A. The RISE secretary enters a record of attendance minutes into the Skyward student information system for each day's attendance for each student. The students' certified teacher enters each student's arrival time and the time they leave each day into an Excel document.
- B. The teacher of record will both keep track of the number of instructional minutes students receive each day and certify the student's minutes with their signature each day. Minutes for students with less than 45 minutes on their attendance card for any given day will not be included in the total minutes reported to TSDS for funding purposes.
- C. Students will not receive more than 10,800 minutes per course; in addition, students will not be simultaneously enrolled in RISE and other traditional programs.
- D. Once every six weeks, WHS administrators will meet with RISE staff to review completed applications and discuss students who have submitted applications to attend the RISE Academy. Following this meeting the RISE staff will meet with students and parents in an interview to determine if RISE Academy meets the student's needs for academic progress. Students are withdrawn from their previous campus prior to becoming active in the RISE Academy, thus they will not be simultaneously enrolled in RISE and a traditional ADA program. The district will monitor minutes between the two programs by applying the recommended formula: Estimate maximum RISE minutes a student is eligible = (Calendar days – Traditional days present) x 240.
- E. The RISE program secretary utilizes Skyward in the form of an attendance record for each student in attendance for each date to comply with Sections 2.2.3 Paperless Attendance Accounting Systems with teachers utilizing secret passwords, timing out of the attendance system with inactivity, reporting the date, time, and identity of the teacher, and a provision of a positive confirmation for 100 percent attendance, while also complying with section 11.6 OFSDP Attendance and Funding section of the Student Attendance Accounting Handbook.
- F. The Student Data Manager will send the attendance record each six weeks to the RISE coordinator to review, verify, and sign. Skyward will not allow a record to be created with less than 45 minutes for the day.

8. Summer Funding

Not Applicable

9. Dropout Recovery

Not Applicable

10. Hybrid/Remote Learning

Not Applicable