

RISE Family

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the steps to getting matched with a RISE Student?

1. Complete an application at riserespite.org.
2. A program coordinator will review your application, contact you to learn more about your family's needs, and schedule a home visit if you have not completed a home visit through Supportive Care for Dementia or another Hospice of the Valley program.
3. Read and sign the Family Agreement and complete the required grant survey.
4. When a suitable student is available, the program coordinator will introduce you by email so you can schedule your first visit.

How long does it take to find a match?

There is no set timeline for matching with a RISE student. The process depends on several factors, including your location, scheduling needs, and the availability of screened students. While some families are matched within a few weeks, others may wait longer depending on student/ family availability. Throughout the process, you can always request an update, but RISE will notify you as soon as a suitable match becomes available.

Who are the students, and what qualifications do they have?

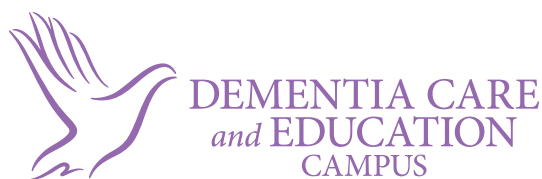
RISE is open to all ASU students, though many participants are interested in healthcare careers. Every student completes a day-long dementia training, participates in an interview, and passes a background check before joining the program.

Can a RISE student work with a family that lives far from an ASU campus?

Yes. Many RISE students live off campus, and we strive to serve families throughout the Valley. While distance does not prevent participation, we cannot guarantee a match in every location because it depends on student availability. If your matched student lives more than 12 miles away, families are responsible for providing gas reimbursement.

Do families need to have activities planned for students during visits?

No. We provide students with information about the visitee's interests, hobbies, and preferences ahead of time. Visits are flexible and centered around what is most comfortable and meaningful for the visitee. The connection between the student and older adult naturally helps guide activities and conversation.



How should families introduce or sell the program to a loved one living with dementia?

We encourage families to present RISE as an intergenerational experience and an opportunity to connect with a student who is eager to learn from an older adult's life experiences. Students participate as part of their educational and career development, and many meaningful relationships grow from these visits.

How many hours are families required to sign up for?

Each visit must be at least 2 hours, and families are expected to schedule at least one visit per week. There is no maximum number of visits, and families are welcome to meet more frequently based on student availability.

Can students accept short-term assignments, or one-time visits?

No. RISE is designed to foster long-term relationships between students and older adults. For that reason, we prioritize families who are interested in ongoing participation rather than one-time or short-term visits.

What happens if the student is not a good fit for our family?

If the match is not the right fit, families may request a rematch with another student. Our goal is to create successful, lasting partnerships for both students and families.

What counts as "personal care" that students cannot provide?

Students may not perform personal care tasks, including but not limited to bathing, toileting, dressing, administering medications, taking vital signs, feeding by spoon, or assisting with personal hygiene. Their role is to provide companionship, engagement, and social support rather than medical or caregiving services.

To apply, fill out an application at riserespite.org.

For further questions, email riserespite@hov.org.