



REEF To The Rescue!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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REEF Establishes Emergency Summer School Scholarship Program for RUSD High School Students

The Riverside Educational Enrichment Foundation (REEF) will help Riverside families afford tuition-based summer school for their high school students who no longer have the option of attending free summer school through Riverside Unified School District.

Due to the State's ongoing budget crisis, Riverside Unified School District (like many in California) will provide free summer school courses only to those students at risk of not passing the California High School Exit Exam.

Many high school students rely on summer school to complete academic courses so they will have room in their full school schedules to also participate in enriching classes such as AVID (a college preparatory program), music and performing arts. RUSD has partnered with Riverside Community College to provide tuition-based summer school for these students and others who would like to improve their grades in academic courses.

The tuition for a one-semester course is \$250 and for a two-semester course the tuition is \$500. Many Riverside families cannot afford the cost to provide summer school to their children.

REEF has established a Summer School Scholarship program to help these students with an initial investment of \$20,000. RUSD Board of Education member Kathy Allavie started REEF's scholarship fund with a generous donation of \$1,000.

Eligibility criteria have been established including requirements that students requesting a scholarship be currently enrolled in RUSD, have at least a 2.5 grade point average, be enrolled in six or more classes in the 2010-11 school year, and qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. Scholarships will be funded at 80% of tuition, so a one-semester class will cost families \$50; a two-semester class, \$100. Students who do not complete summer school will be required to return the scholarship dollars to REEF.

REEF anticipates receiving more scholarship requests than it can fund and is reaching out to the community for help. Any individual, family, or local business who would like to help is encouraged to send a check directly to REEF (include "Summer Scholarship Fund" in memo), at 3380 14th Street, Riverside, CA 92501, or make a secure donation online at REEF's website: www.riversideschoolsrule.org.

To enable selected students to meet enrollment deadlines, **all contributions must be received by May 17**. The deadline for families to apply for REEF Summer School Scholarships is May 17, 2010.

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