

LEARNING SUPPORT



Resource Specialist Program

The core philosophy of RSP is that students can receive accommodations to support the way they learn without modifying the curriculum in any way.

Since 1994, the Resource Specialist Program (RSP) has served students with diagnosed mild to moderate learning disabilities, helping them succeed in Riordan's rigorous college-prep curriculum and prepare for academic careers beyond high school. For close to three decades, the program has been a national model for teenagers with learning differences.

Recent RSP College Acceptances

- ▶ CSU Monterey Bay
- ▶ Lewis & Clark
- ▶ Morehouse College
- ▶ San Diego Christian College
- ▶ San Francisco State
- ▶ San Jose State
- ▶ Santa Clara University
- ▶ St. Mary's College
- ▶ UC Berkeley
- ▶ University of Arizona
- ▶ University of San Francisco
- ▶ Washington State

The RSP Staff

The highly-trained educators who work in Riordan's resource program are committed to the success, growth, and progress of all students throughout their high school careers.

An RSP student has access to multiple qualified support staff members from the moment they walk in the doors until 4:00 pm every day. Also, the staff meets with all RSP families at least three times a year and are available by email and phone.

"Riordan's RSP is a lifeline to students with learning differences who want to succeed."

—
RSP Parent

More Information on Reverse

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Riordan offers students in RSP a tiered structure of support to meet their individual needs, with flexibility as the student moves through the college preparatory curriculum. A designated faculty coordinator for each Tier facilitates communication between students, faculty, and parents about accommodations, grades, and other aspects of academic life.



Tier 1

For students who need testing support and homework help.

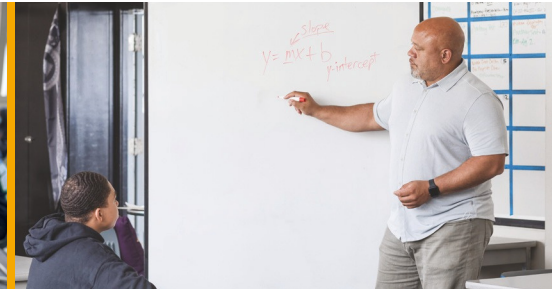
This college-style “drop in” support program is designed for students with strong advocacy skills. The goal is for all students, regardless of what tier they start in, to move to Tier 1 before graduation.



Tier 2

For students who need academic and testing support.

This moderately structured program emphasizes executive function, reading, writing and testing support for students with language-based learning differences and/or attention issues.



Tier 3

For students who need intensive, individualized academic and testing support.

This heavily structured support program has the same emphasis as Tier 2 but takes place in a small group format and with more oversight from an instructor. This includes 1:1 tutoring during the school day by certified staff and social skills support as needed.

RSP Courses

In their first two years, Tier 2 and 3 students take English courses designed specifically for individuals in the RSP taught by instructors with extensive experience in special education. Beyond these courses, students follow the regular academic curriculum.

POD Class

Tier 2 and 3 students also take a structured study skills class called a POD to not only provide students the time, space, and support to do the things that have always been difficult for them, but also give them the tools to effectively use the things that come easily to them in an academic setting.

Eligibility Requirements

In addition to Riordan’s regular online application, students interested in applying to RSP must submit a recent (within three years) psycho-educational evaluation that shows a diagnosis of a mild to moderate learning disability, NVLD, ADD/ADHD, or any OHI.

“Fairness does not mean that everyone gets the same thing; fairness means that everyone gets what they need. ”

—
Dr. Richard Lavoie, Education Specialist

For More Information and How to Apply:
www.riordanhs.org/academics/learning-support