# Rio Rancho Public Schools (RRPS) General Information

Administrative Offices

500 Laser Rd.

Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124  
Phone: (505)896-0667   
Fax: (505) 896-0662   
<http://www.rrps.net/>

## Enrollment

Military Families that will be relocating to a military installation in New Mexico, pursuant to an official military order, may register their child in a specific school in the district. A student’s name may be submitted for any lottery-selected school program for which the student qualifies. The parent must provide proof of residence in the school district within 45 days after the published arrival date on official military documentation.

## Find your School

Rio Rancho Public Schools has a boundary map you can use to determine your child’s school. The maps can be found at <https://www.rrps.net/page/school-locations-attendance-boundaries>. The interactive [Kirtland AFB Schools map](https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1VUDJ3e40pvR_bLG3EBbiTqIXY_wozFw&hl=en&usp=sharing) allows you to view school locations, with options to see charter schools, private schools, and local school districts schools.

## Registration Information

If you are registering your child(ren) for the first time, you must bring with you when you register your child:

* Original birth certificate
* Court documents pertaining to guardianship, if applicable
* Copy of student’s current Individualized Education Plan (IEP), if applicable
* Immunization records
* Students enrolling in kindergarten must be five years of age on or before August 31st.
* Social Security number (requested, but not required)
* Proof of residency (current utility bill, rent receipt or purchase agreement)
* Transcripts (high school)

## RRPS Transfers to non-home school

Students who live within the attendance area for a school get first priority to attend that school. If a school **does not** fill up, additional students may transfer into that school. RRPS will approve transfers only if a school has space for new students.

Transfer request guidelines:

Transfer requests can be submitted by a parent. You will need to complete the required transfer request form; transfer information and the form can be found on the Rio Rancho Public Schools website- <https://www.rrps.net/page/student-services>. You can also contact the Transfer Office at (505) 896-0667. The process for transfer requests for the next school year begins on May 1st. Students must be registered at their home school for new transfers.

Enrollment Priorities

Students shall be enrolled or re-enrolled in each school unit according to the following priorities:

1. First priority students are students

* residing within the school district and within the attendance area of the school,
* who will be residing within the school district if the student is a child in a military family who will be relocating to a military installation in New Mexico pursuant to an official military order and will be attending school in the school district during the upcoming school year, or
* who resided in the attendance area prior to a parent who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United State or member of the national guard being deployed and whose deployment has required the student to relocate outside the attendance area for custodial care.

1. Second priority students (also known as first priority transfers) are students who have previously attended RRPS The principal may use the following factors in determining priority within this group:

* Children of RRPs employees
* Siblings of students already attending RRPS
* Childcare for siblings of students attending RRPS
* After school care for students
* Extreme hardship
* Student safety

1. Third priority students (second priority transfers) are all other student transfer requests.

Waiting Lists

If a transfer request cannot be approved for any of the requested schools, each school will establish a **waiting list** for that school year. If space becomes available at a school, students on the waiting list will be offered enrollment based on the student’s priority category and the order placed on the waiting list.

Approved Transfers

As soon as you receive a transfer approval, please contact your new school to find out when the student can complete the registration process.

## Delayed Openings, Cancellation & Early Dismissal

New Mexico schools’ delayed openings are called 2-hour delays. School starts two hours after the normal start time and is released at the normal time. Early dismissal is when schools are released prior to the regular end of daytime.

Delayed opening decisions will be made and announced before 0600 and aired on all local news channels and the RRPS website. School Cancellations announcements will be made by 0900.

## AVID- Advancement via Individual Determination

AVID is a world-wide program currently in place in Rio Rancho Public Schools. This program provides support to students who qualify to succeed in college prep classes in preparation for entrance into accredited 4-year colleges.

## Graduation Requirements

Rio Rancho offers two diploma options to students, a standard diploma, and a Diploma of Distinction. The Diploma of Distinctions requires at least 2 Advanced Placement credits, no grade lower than a C, and with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. It is a NM state requirement that students must pass one unit of Advance Placement, Honors, dual credit, or distance education for graduation.

The basic requirements are as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Requirements:** | **Standard** | **Distinction** |
| English | 4 | 4 |
| Mathematics- incl. Algebra II | 4 | 4 |
| Science\* | 4 | 4 |
| New Mexico History | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Government | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| US History | 1 | 1 |
| World History | 1 | 1 |
| Economics | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| World Geography | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Physical Education | 1 | 1 |
| Health | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| World Languages (WL)/Career Cluster/Workplace Readiness | 1 | 2 WL in same WL |
| Technology Elective | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Fine Arts Elective | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Electives | 6.5 | 7.5 |
| Total | 26 | 28 |

\*Must include two of the following: Biology, Chemistry, or Physics; and one additional science elective

New Mexico law requires that high school students show competency in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies to graduate. Passing the federal and state required assessments, SAT School Day, and NM Assessment of Science Readiness, is one way to do this, but there are other ways for students to show readiness for graduation.

## Alternative Method of Earning High School Credits

There are several non-traditional options to earning credits in High School.

Distance Learning/ Online Courses/ Credit Recovery/ Correspondence Courses

Students must request prior approval from their counselor for distance learning course credit and complete an “Off Campus Course Agreement” form signed by the student, parent, and counselor before enrolling in any off-campus course if the student expects the course to qualify for credit toward graduation. Rio Rancho Public Schools (RRPS) requires that the final exam be supervised by certified school personnel and be earned from an accredited school. The school reserves the right to evaluate a course before credit is given. Students may not take a correspondence or online course for Physical Education or a lab science (Biology, Chemistry or Physics). Online courses are available at Secondary Learning Center (SLC), at the Rio Rancho Cyber Academy. Credit Recovery Courses will be held off-site at the Secondary Learning Center. Transportation and all fees are the responsibility of the student/parent to attend the courses. The high school must receive an official transcript for the course to meet graduation credit requirements.

Dual Credit

Dual credit allows high school students to enroll in college courses offered by public postsecondary educational institutions. RRPS partners with CNM, University of New Mexico (UNM) Los Alamos, and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) to provide students the opportunity to earn college credit as well as elective credit towards graduation. Courses must be academic or career technical courses and must be agreed upon by the RRPS and the post-secondary institution to count toward a graduation requirement. These courses are offered either on or off campus. The tuition fee as well as the cost of textbooks is waived. Students must pay for course specific fees and for arranging transportation to the site of the dual credit course. Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be assigned appropriate credit and the student may request a transcript to receive HS elective credit. For more information on CNM’s High School Programs, visit their webpage at <https://www.cnm.edu/depts/outreach/dual-credit/high-school-and-dual-credit-programs>. For more information on UNM’s dual credit program, visit their webpage at <http://advisement.unm.edu/dual-credit/>.

State statute specifically indicates that credit will be assigned as follows:

3 - 4 credit hour post-secondary course = 1 RRPS elective credit

1 – 2 credit hour post-secondary course = 0.5 RRPS elective credit

## High School Schedule

Rio Rancho Public Schools follows a traditional schedule in which all class periods meet for the same amount of time each day of the week. RRPS high schools start at 7:20 am and end at 1:50 pm.

## Rio Rancho Schools of Choice

Cyber Academy

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy (RRCA) is a full-time, fully accredited high school and effective middle school environment. RRCA’s curriculum is accepted by the NM PED. RRCA continues to be pro-active and collaborative to solve problems and be innovative in their planning and decision making. RRCA has been established as a credible learning environment with a rigorous curriculum that matches or exceeds that of the tow comprehensive high schools in the district. RRCA has become a model Hybrid Distance Learning School known throughout the country. For more information, please visit <http://cyberacademy.rrps.net/>.

## Home School Services

You can enroll your home schooler in as little as one class a semester in the district or up to three classes, depending on your student’s needs. Doing so does not change your homeschooling status, but it does allow you the ability to take advantage of something the district offers free of charge and already funded by your tax dollars. Curricular materials are provided. Because this option is separate from normal district enrollment, your choice(s) can be onsite, where your student comes daily to a class or lab, or in some cases off-site through an online cyber option. Any subject, K-12, can be accessed through our home schooling outreach program. It might be a required core course like math, science, language arts or social studies, or an elective your student simply finds interesting and wants to explore with a certified and licensed teacher in that field. You spend a lot of time developing home schooling curricula to support your student’s learning. While you are tailoring a program to meet your student’s unique needs, think of us as another accessory in your educational closet!

This program is available to any currently home schooled, school-age student in New Mexico qualifies! You don’t have to be a resident of Rio Rancho to take advantage of this opportunity. Under the New Mexico Open Enrollment Act, schools may allow inter-district and intra-district transfer options for all students “when there are sufficient accommodations to provide for them”. Out of district parents will need to take an extra step of completing a transfer request form, and we would be happy to help you with that as well. It is our pleasure to roll out the welcome mat for you! For more information, visit <https://www.rrps.net/page/schools> or <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-uhvQtGF2lyy3NR82WkB7qyiIwNNS3uT/view?usp=sharing>.

## Honors and Advanced Placement Programs

The Honors/Advanced Placement curriculum offers a challenging program for all students. Courses are based on the College Board course description guidelines. These classes provide students with an emphasis on critical thinking skills, college preparatory experiences, and opportunities to take Advanced Placement examinations and possibly earn college credits. Students who choose these courses will be taking the most academically demanding courses the district offers. Students should receive career guidance and course planning assistance so they do not take more Honors/AP courses than they can comfortably handle.

Weighted Grade Increment

To recognize student achievement, courses recognized by the College Board as Advanced Placement (AP) and courses designated as Honors by the district will be awarded a weighted grade increment.

## Special Education

The Rio Rancho Schools Special Services Department is responsible for all Special Education and federal programs in the district. They provide a wide range of services in a variety of settings. They have employed some of the most qualified professional in all service areas and enjoy seeing successful programs run at every school. Approximately 3,045 students, 17.6% of the total student body, currently qualify for special education services.

They provide services for children from 3 to 22 years of age, and address students’ learning styles from a multi-modality approach. This means that services are integrated with emphasis on cooperative planning and intervention, coordination with curriculum, and collaboration with the parents. If you believe your child may have learning needs that require special education services, contact your child’s teacher or other school staff. To find out more about RRPS’s Special Services Department and for a variety of resources, visit <https://www.rrps.net/page/special-services>.

**S.A.F.E. (Students Achieving for Excellence) Before and After School Program:**  
The Rio Rancho School District is fortunate to offer your child(ren) the Student’s Achieving For Excellence (S.A.F.E.) Before and After School Program.  Currently the program is offered at all RRPS elementary schools.

These programs include homework help, sports activities, special events, life skills, and guest speakers. Free snacks are provided daily.

For more information, please visit the S.A.F.E. program website at <https://www.rrps.net/page/safe>, visit the program at your child’s school site or call the main office at (505) 896-0667 ext. 237.

**Program Hours:**  
**Before School -** 6:45 a.m. to start of school day  
**After School Program -** After school release to 6:00 p.m.

Rio Rancho Public Schools- School Listing

**Preschool (PK)**

Shining Stars Preschool

**Elementary Schools (K-5)**

Cielo Azul ES

Colinas del Norte ES

Enchanted Hills ES

Ernest Stapleton ES

Joe Harris ES

Maggie Cordova ES

Martin Luther King, Jr. ES

Puesta del Sol ES

Rio Rancho ES

Sandia Vista ES

Vista Grande ES

**Middle Schools (6-8)**

Eagle Ridge MS

Lincoln MS

Mountain View MS

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy

Rio Rancho MS

**High Schools (9-12)**

V. Sue Cleveland HS

Independence HS

Rio Rancho HS

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy

**Magnet/Alternative Schools**

Independence HS

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy

**Cielo Azul ES**, 3804 Shiloh Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 338-2320, Grades: K-5, website: <https://cieloazul.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 698, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Colinas del Norte ES**, 1001 Night Sky Ave NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 896-3378, Grades: K-5, website: <https://colinas.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 584, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Eagle Ridge MS**, 800 Fruta Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 892-6630, Grades: 6-8, website: <https://eagle.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 823, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Enchanted Hills ES**, 5400 Obregon Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 891-8526, Grades: K-5, website: <https://enchanted.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 723, Traditional calendar, Traditional school

**Ernest Stapleton ES**, 3100 Stapleton Ave NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 891-8473, Grades: K-5, website: <https://stapleton.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 815, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Independence HS**, 421 Quantum Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 338-4658, Grades: 10-12, website: <https://independence.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 211, Traditional calendar, Alternative school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Joe Harris ES**, 2100 10th St SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 896-0706, Grades: K-5, website: <https://joeharris.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 517, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Lincoln MS**, 2287 Lema Rd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 892-1100, Grades: 6-8, website: <https://lincoln.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 823, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Maggie Cordova ES**, 1500 Veranda Rd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 994-0229, Grades: K-5, website: <https://mcordova.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 674, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program, Bilingual Program

**Martin Luther King, Jr. ES**, 1301 Nicklaus Dr SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 892-2575, Grades: K-5, website: <https://martin.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 628, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Mountain View MS**, 4101 Montreal Loop NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 867-0711, Grades: 6-8, website: <https://mountain.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 937, Traditional calendar, Traditional school

**Puesta del Sol ES**, 450 Southern Blvd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 994-3305, Grades: K-5, website: <https://puesta.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 597, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

Bilingual Program

**Rio Rancho Cyber Academy**, 1330 Jackie Rd SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 892-7222, Grades: 6-12, website: <https://cyberacademy.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 205, Traditional calendar, Magnet school

**Rio Rancho ES**, 4601 Pepe Ortiz SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124, (505) 892-0220, Grades: K-5, website: <https://riorancho.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 534, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Rio Rancho HS**, 301 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 896-5600, Grades: 9-12, website: <https://rioranchohigh.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 2,573, Traditional calendar, Traditional school

**Rio Rancho MS**, 1600 Loma Colorado Blvd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 891-5335, Grades: 6-8, website: <https://rioranchomiddle.rrps.net>, Student enrollment: 1,143, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**Sandia Vista ES**, 6800 Franklin Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 338-2526, Grades: K-5, website: <https://sandiavista.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 690, Traditional calendar, Traditional school

**Shining Stars Preschool**, 2100 Lionel St. NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 892-7735, Grades: PK (3–4-year-olds), website: <https://shiningstars.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 612, Traditional calendar, Traditional calendar, Preschool

**Vista Grande ES**, 7001 Chayote Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 771-2366, Grades: K-5, website: <https://vistagrande.rrps.net/>, Student enrollment: 768, Traditional calendar, Traditional school, School wide Title 1 Program

**V. Sue Cleveland HS**, 4800 Cleveland Heights Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144, (505) 938-0300, Grades: 9-12, website: <https://cleveland.rrps.net>, Student enrollment: 2,631, Traditional calendar, Traditional school