

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. For whom is the RISE program intended?** The RISE program is intended for, and will especially benefit, incoming JD students from backgrounds historically underrepresented in law school and the legal profession, including but not limited to underrepresented racial, ethnic, geographic, socioeconomic and first generation college backgrounds.
- 2. How will the pre-orientation program help me prepare for law school?** During the pre-orientation program, you will:
  - i. read and brief legal cases, experience a law school classroom, learn some basics of legal analysis and the American legal system, and take a short written exam;
  - ii. enhance performance skills that will keep you on track and help you thrive in law school, including time management, priority setting, and the best ways of seeking and receiving feedback; and
  - iii. meet and bond with faculty, staff, alumni, and current Georgetown Law students who will be there to support and guide you as a law student and new lawyer.
- 3. What are the dates of the pre-orientation program?** The program will begin with a week-long pre-orientation program from the evening of Sunday, August 16 (optional dinner for those on campus) through Friday, August, 21, 2020.
- 4. Can I participate in the RISE program, even if I don't participate in the pre-orientation week?** No. The pre-orientation week is mandatory to participate in the program. RISE participants are expected to participate fully in all scheduled programs that week. Most days will run from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., with a few required evening events. We also highly encourage participants to continue with the co-curricular program during the first year—it is designed to complement your first-year course work, career exploration and more—but you will not be required to do so.
- 5. How will the programming throughout the year help me?** Building on the skills introduced in the pre-orientation week, you will continue to work in small groups to enhance the communication and academic skills that you will need to thrive as law students and future leaders of the legal profession, maintain balance and explore your career development.
- 6. Will all students who apply be accepted to the program?** No. We anticipate selecting a maximum of 65-75 students to participate in RISE. For those not accepted (or who decide not to apply), beginning at Orientation, we will offer robust programming and resources focused on exam skills, wellness, building community and career development. You will be able to participate fully in [1L 101](#) -- a series of workshops for all first-year students designed to introduce you to the unique study skills of law school, attend [Lawyers in Balance](#), a nationally recognized program focused on mindfulness practices that will improve your performance in law school and the legal profession,

receive mentoring and guidance from your [Peer Advisors](#), explore as many career paths as you would like with our Office of Career Strategies and Office of Public Interest and Community Service and much more.

7. **What type of mentoring is offered during the program?** RISE offers several opportunities for students to connect with upper-class students. Each RISE student works with a RISE Peer Mentor and a RISE Teaching Fellow. Your RISE Peer Mentor will assist your transition to law school, including answering your questions and introducing you to resources. The RISE Teaching Fellows will assist you with study skills, class preparation, and exam writing. RISE participants also will build informal relationships with staff, faculty and alumni.
8. **How do I apply for the program?** Please fill out [this application form](#) as soon as possible, but no later than **June 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.** **We recognize that COVID-19 has created a lot of difficult challenges for a lot of people. If you have any trouble meeting this deadline, please just email either of our RISE Co-Directors, Maura DeMouy, [mld127@georgetown.edu](mailto:mld127@georgetown.edu), or Nicole Sandoz, [ns1028@georgetown.edu](mailto:ns1028@georgetown.edu).** You will be **notified of our decision on June 18, 2020.**
9. **What does it cost to participate in the program?** The program is free for all participants, including the scheduled meals and activities throughout the pre-orientation week. Additionally, we will provide each participant a small stipend to cover meals and other incidentals not provided during the week.
10. **Where do students live during the pre-orientation program?** We expect you to move into your planned first year living arrangements on or before August 16. For those who are living in Gewirz, we are arranging early move-in for RISE participants the weekend of August 16. If for some reason you cannot move into your planned housing by August 16, please let us know and we will do our best to assist.
11. **What about COVID-19? Will it affect RISE?** At this time, we do not expect COVID-19 to prevent RISE from taking place as scheduled. At most, we would take steps to offer some or all of the week in an online format, but we would not cancel the program. Furthermore, RISE is not just a pre-Orientation program - we have academic and community-building activities all year-long!
12. **Whom do I contact if I have questions?** If you have any questions, please contact the RISE Program Co-Directors Maura DeMouy, [mld127@georgetown.edu](mailto:mld127@georgetown.edu) (also our Director of Academic Success), or Nicole Sandoz, [ns1028@georgetown.edu](mailto:ns1028@georgetown.edu) (also our Director of Student Life).