

Application Instructions

Apply Online: admissions.rit.edu

Applicant Status

You should apply to RIT as a *freshman* if you are currently in secondary school or have graduated from secondary school but have not yet attended college. You should apply to RIT as a *transfer* if you have attended any college *after graduating* from secondary school. Special information regarding admission as an Early Decision freshman, NTID or HEOP candidate is provided below.

Early Decision Plan

If you're applying to RIT as a freshman and have identified RIT as your *first-choice* college, you may want to apply for an early review of your application through our Early Decision Plan. Please note that this plan is not an option for transfer applicants.

To apply for Early Decision, you should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of your application and return your completed form along with all supporting credentials (including transcripts, SAT or ACT scores, and recommendation) by **December 1** in order to have your Early Decision notification mailed by January 15. Students who select RIT as their first-choice college after December 1 should contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office to discuss consideration options.

Under the Early Decision Plan, if you are admitted to RIT in your first-choice major, you must submit a \$300 acceptance of admission deposit by February 15 and withdraw your applications with all other colleges/universities at that time.

Early Decision candidates who are not accepted will, in most cases, be asked to submit midyear senior grades and will be reviewed a second time as part of the Regular Decision group of applicants. Candidates who are accepted to an alternate (second- or third-choice) major may request to be released from the conditions of the Early Decision Plan.

Early Decision candidates who desire an early estimate of financial aid eligibility should submit an "early version" financial aid application to RIT. This application will be available online to all Early Decision applicants.

Regular Decision Plan

Most applications for admission to RIT are reviewed under our Regular Decision Plan. All transfer, international, and freshman applicants other than those choosing to apply as Early Decision candidates (see above) are reviewed as Regular Decision candidates.

Under this plan, freshman applicants for fall semester (September) entry who have provided *all* required application materials by **February 1** will have their admission notification mailed by March 15. Freshmen who apply for fall semester admission after February 1 are notified of admission decisions on a space-available basis four to six weeks after their application is complete. Candidates who submit their applications and academic records by February 1 will be considered for RIT's merit-based scholarship programs (academic and extracurricular) and the RIT Honors program.

All applications for transfer admission, and all freshman applications for spring or summer semester entry, are reviewed on a "rolling" basis, with notification letters mailed four to six weeks after the application is complete. All applications filed by international students are also reviewed and notified on a "rolling" basis.

Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Applicants

Deaf and hard-of-hearing students may apply for admission to programs offered at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) or to any other college of RIT. *Whether you are applying to an NTID program or a program in any other RIT college, you should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of the application and submit an audiological record in order to qualify for educational access and support services (such as sign language interpreting services, real-time captioning services, notetakers, tutors), and to receive the federally supported tuition rate for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.*

Higher Education Opportunity Program

The Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) provides educationally and financially disadvantaged residents of New York State with access to independent colleges and universities throughout the state by providing special academic support services and financial assistance.

New York state residents who wish to be considered for admission through HEOP should check the box for HEOP admission in the Applicant Status section. HEOP candidates must also be prepared to submit financial documentation to determine HEOP eligibility. The Undergraduate Admissions Office will request this information once your application has been received. *Please contact our HEOP Office at 585-475-2221 to discuss HEOP financial eligibility guidelines before applying.*

HEOP admission is available only to students who have not previously attended college, or to transfer students who were part of their previous college's EOP or HEOP program. Candidates are encouraged to request a waiver of the normally required \$60 application fee if needed.

International Applicants

International students may apply online, use this application form, or use RIT's International Student Application. Students whose native language is not English must submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination. International applicants applying for fall semester (September) admission should have all educational records and admission materials on file by March 1. Applications are reviewed on a "rolling" basis, with admissions notification four to six weeks after all materials are received by RIT. International applicants who are deaf should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of the application and submit an audiological record in order to qualify for educational access and support services provided through NTID.

Program Selection

When you apply for admission to RIT, you are asked to select a specific major as part of our admission process. This is important because we offer a variety of majors, and admission requirements may differ from one program to another. In this section, you will select the major you want to study at RIT. ***The majors are listed on pages C and D. Please refer to this list when indicating your program choice.***

If you do not meet the requirements for admission to your first-choice major, or if that major has filled all available spaces, you will not be offered admission to that major. You may, however, be offered admission to a second- or third-choice alternate major if you have selected one. Applicants who choose alternate majors from different colleges within RIT are more likely to be admitted to one of their chosen majors.

If you do not feel ready to select a specific major, you may apply for admission to one of the “undeclared option” programs offered by several RIT colleges, or choose the University Studies program if your interests span more than one RIT college.

Undecided?

If you have interests that span two or more of our colleges, our broadest and most flexible option, **University Studies** (offered by the Division of Academic Affairs), allows you up to a year to explore and focus your academic and career interests.

If your primary interests fall within a specific college, but you are unsure of your specific major, many colleges offer Undeclared Options. These college-based options help you discover more about your specific interests within the majors offered by the college.

- Undeclared Art and Design
- Undeclared Business
- Undeclared Crafts
- Computing Exploration (Undeclared Computing) (Freshmen)
- Engineering Exploration (Undeclared Engineering)
- Undeclared Engineering Technology
- Informatics Exploration (Undeclared Informatics) (Freshmen)
- Liberal Arts Exploration (Undeclared Liberal Arts)
- Science Exploration (Undeclared Science)

Academic Transcripts

This application packet includes a Secondary School Transcript Request Form. If you are applying for freshman admission, you should take this form to your high school guidance office to be completed and returned to RIT with an official copy of your transcript in a sealed school envelope.

If you are a transfer applicant, you should request immediate forwarding of official college transcripts from all colleges previously attended. If you have completed fewer than 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours, you also must submit official secondary school transcripts. If you are currently enrolled in college, please be sure to submit the Transfer Course List to indicate any courses you will complete before entering RIT. You may complete the Transfer Course List on the Web at www.rit.edu/admissions.

Portfolio Requirements

All students applying for admission to the School of Art, or the School of Design, must submit an art portfolio for consideration. A portfolio submission is optional for those applying to the School of American Crafts. The portfolio should consist of 10 to 20 pieces of the student's best work, and should be submitted on 35mm slides or a digital CD. *Please review the portfolio instructions available at www.rit.edu/admissions/application-forms before submitting your portfolio.*

Students who wish to make special arrangements to show their art portfolio while visiting campus should contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office. Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing should contact NTID Admissions.

Transfer applicants to the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences seeking credit for previous photography courses must submit a photography portfolio for credit evaluation. Photography portfolios are not required for freshman admission.

Required Admission Tests (RIT SAT Code #2760, RIT ACT Code #2870)

All freshman applicants must submit results from the SAT Reasoning Test (SAT-I) of the College Board or ACT assessment scores from the ACT Testing Program. Applicants should have the testing agency send SAT or ACT scores directly to RIT or have scores included on their high school transcript. RIT will accept results from any test date, and ACT or SAT examinations are equally acceptable for admission consideration. The ACT's optional writing test is recommended but not required for those students who choose the ACT. International students whose native language is not English must submit results of the TOEFL or IELTS and are encouraged to also submit SAT or ACT results if available.

Honors Program Admission

Prospective students begin the Honors program admission process by submitting RIT's Application for Undergraduate Admission along with secondary school transcripts and SAT or ACT scores. These materials must be submitted no later than February 1. Applications postmarked by February 1 are reviewed by the Undergraduate Admissions Office to select a limited number of candidates who are then admitted to the Honors program.

Important E-mail Instructions

Providing us with a correct and current e-mail address is important. E-mail is how we most often communicate with you throughout the application process. We recommend that you add undergrad_admissions@rit.edu and admissions@rit.edu to your address book and remove any spam blockers that may obstruct our e-mail, and that you frequently check the e-mail address provided.