Assistantships, Financial Aid, and Graduate Scholarships

To be considered for assistantships, financial aid, or graduate scholarships, you must be admitted as a matriculated student in one of the degree programs listed in this publication. We recommend that you apply for financial aid and scholarships at the same time you apply for admission.

Scholarships and Assistantships

Graduate scholarships and assistantships are awarded in most academic departments. Awards are based on academic excellence and English language ability. The amount of the award varies by student and department. Applicants for admission will be considered for scholarships as long as they check the appropriate box on the application for admission. Students should contact the graduate coordinator in their academic department for assistantship information.

Some departments also offer externally funded stipends from corporate or government sources. International graduate students can accept pay for work related to their program of instruction during their program, if such work is approved by RIT. They cannot be employed in jobs away from the RIT campus without permission from RIT.

RIT rarely awards full financial support for graduate students. Some academic departments may require that students provide proof of financial support before they will review the application. Applicants should be confident of their source of funding for the full length of the academic program before they apply for admission.

Assistantships

Applicants should contact the department graduate coordinator for their intended academic program (see "Program Information") for information about application requirements for graduate assistantships. Deadlines and requirements vary from program to program.

Financial Aid

To apply for federal financial aid (available only to U.S. citizens and permanent residents), you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and have results sent to RIT. Our federal school code is 002806. New York residents can apply for the state’s Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) by completing the FAFSA. Additional financial aid information, including links to federal aid programs and an electronic FAFSA form, can be obtained on the Web at www.rit.edu/financialaid. Contact us at 585-475-2186.

Scholarships

Once you are accepted for admission to an RIT graduate program, you will be eligible to be considered for scholarship assistance, provided that you check the box indicating this in the Scholarships and Assistantships section of the application for admission. Applying for a scholarship will have no impact on your admission decision.

Policies:

1. Scholarships are awarded by the academic department, on the basis of academic excellence, to students matriculated in a degree-granting program. They are usually awarded for a nine-month academic year. Renewal decisions are also made by the department.

2. No work can be required as a condition of receiving a graduate scholarship.

3. Graduate students who receive a graduate scholarship may concurrently hold a graduate teaching, lab, or research assistantship in any RIT college.

4. Scholarships are generally awarded to full-time students. However, in some instances, they are offered to well-qualified part-time students.

5. Students who are receiving full or partial RIT tuition waivers are not eligible for graduate scholarships.