

International Student Services



New International Student Orientation Guide

NAME: _____

ISS Staff Members

www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss

International Student Services

Student Alumni Union - building 04, 2nd floor, room 2330

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New Student Checklist

Immigration Check-In

Location: International Student Services, Student Alumni Union, Building #4, room 2330
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

- Passport, I-94 card (white card stapled in passport), and Form I-20 (F1 students) or Form DS-2019 (J1 students) must be submitted to ISS for review. Copies will be made and you will receive a travel signature. New students are also required to complete an Emergency Contact Form.

University ID and Computer Account

Location: Registrar's Office, Eastman Building, Building #1, and floor #1
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

- Students must present valid photo identification in the form of a passport or driver's license to obtain their RIT University Identification.
- Students must present I-20 or DS-2019, passport and I-94 card to Payroll office to be paid for on campus employment
- For computer account, if not yet informed about it, contact the ITS Help Desk (helpdesk@rit.edu).

Student Health History Form

Location: Student Health Center in the August Center, Building #23A
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

- Students must submit completed Health History Forms in order to maintain proper status at RIT. If you submitted your form via mail or fax, you should have received an e-mail from the Student Health Center. If you did not receive an e-mail or did not submit your form yet, please be sure to stop by the Student Health Center so your case can be reviewed.

On-Campus Jobs and Social Security Numbers

Student Employment Office Location: University Services Center, Building #87, room 1350
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m.

- **We will discuss employment in great detail during orientation.** Highlights include the following: In order to work on campus, you must be registered as a full-time student. (Some students will not be able to register for classes until you meet with your Academic Advisor.) Once you are registered, you must go to the Student Employment Office (located in the University Services Center Bldg. 87) to request a Student Employment Card. You will need to bring your Form I-20 or DS-2019, passport and I-94 card in order to receive your card. You may then begin looking for a job on-campus (posted jobs at www.rit.edu/emcs/seo/jobs/oncampus). The earliest date you can begin working is generally 1-2 weeks before the start of classes. Once you are hired, you must bring a copy of your "Hire Form" to ISS. Only students who work on campus are eligible for a Social Security Number (further explained).

Academic Departments

Locations and hours vary by department. See campus map

- Many Departments will offer meetings and orientations for new graduate students. If you have not received any information from your Department, we encourage you to stop by and introduce yourself. Please note that you may be asked to schedule an appointment and return at a later time when your Advisor is available.

Academics at RIT

Academic Support Center
Monroe Hall (Above Artesano Bakery in Student Alumni Union), Room 2080

www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/asc

Hours:
Mon-Fri: 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.

ASC Math Lab
Bates Study Center (Gosnell Building, 08-1200)
Sol Study Center (Sol Heumann Residence Hall, 47-1016)

http://www.rit.edu/asc/tutoring_mathphysics.php

ACS Writing Lab
Student Alumni Union Building
No. 4 Room 1180

http://www.rit.edu/asc/tutoring_writingcenter.php

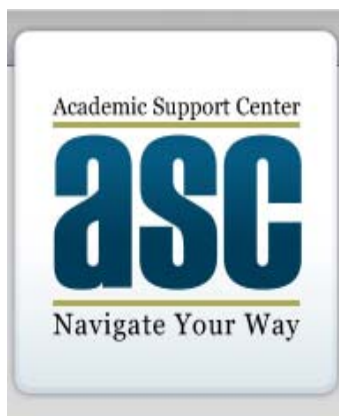
Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 9:30a.m.-7:00p.m.,
Fri: 9:30a.m.-3:00p.m.,

English Language Center
2nd floor Student Alumni Union Building No. 4

<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/elc/home.php>



The **Academic Support Center (ASC)**, located in the Monroe Hall, room 2080, above the Artesano Bakery in the SAU, provides flexible and innovative services to enhance the academic and personal success of students.



The free, drop-in **ASC Math Lab** is staffed by ASC faculty and trained tutors. **ASC Mathematics** offers direct support for RIT math courses through its Math Lab, mathematics assessment, general skill instruction, and tutor training. Contact: Birgit Coffey, Birgit.Coffey@rit.edu or 475-6944

The free, drop-in **ASC Writing Center** is staffed by faculty. **ASC Writing** offers assessment and instruction in college writing through its Writing Lab, courses, and workshops. Several instructors are proficient in sign language. Contact: Andrew Perry, 475-6945 or andrew.perry@rit.edu

Other academic services, such as development of study strategies, assistance in improving reading skills, as well as help in overcoming academic challenges (academic assessment program; learning support services; etc) are also available. Check the ASC web-site for more information.

English Language Center (ELC) is located in the Monroe Hall (room 2080) above the Artesano Bakery in the SAU building and teaches ESL to RIT students who have previously studied English. The English Language Center conducts 11-week programs every fall, winter, spring and summer with shorter programs in January and July.

Upon arrival at RIT, international students who are conditionally admitted or are required by academic departments will undergo English placement testing. Students who do not score well may be required to register for English courses at additional cost. The tests are held before the beginning of each quarter at the ELC.

Students who are not required to take ESL, but are still able to register for English language courses or take private English classes if they would like some help with their English. Courses include: beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels in grammar, reading, writing, conversation, and vocabulary. Students may also choose from a variety of electives, including such topics as TOEFL preparation, American culture, business communication, writing research papers, presentation skills, understanding academic lectures, and pronunciation.

Classroom Hints

Classroom Setting



Attendance. Attending class is important and is often part of your grade. If you are ill or must be absent, please notify the professor by telephone or e-mail and ask for the assignment ahead of time, or call the office and leave a message for the faculty member.



Visibility. Sit near the front of the classroom to show your interest and to help you focus better.



Informality. Students and professors may dress and act casually. In the classroom, drinking a soda or eating very quietly is usually acceptable, though it is always polite to ask first.



Varieties of teaching techniques. Professors do not just read lectures. They may use visual aids and/or experiential methods.



Class participation. Students should take initiative to ask questions, assert their opinions, and challenge the professor when appropriate. Participation in the classroom is expected and encouraged and is often a part of your grade. Feel free to express your thoughts even if they are different from those of other students or from the thoughts of the professor. Asking questions shows that you are listening and trying to understand the material. Professors appreciate this attention.



You have come a long way to study here at RIT, and many people on campus will be interested in what you are thinking and how this education differs from your schooling at home. You may be shy about speaking out in class at first, so share your ideas privately with your professors or a small number of American students until you feel comfortable enough to participate in class discussion.



Tape Recording. If you would like to tape record classes so that you can listen to the lectures again to improve your understanding, ask the professor in advance. Most instructors will permit you to make tapes.



Classroom Hints

Student - Professor Relationships



Introduce yourself to the professor right away. It is common to use academic titles in addressing faculty. You may use Professor and Family Name (Professor Smart) to refer to a man or a woman. Dr. Smart is used if the professor has a Ph.D. degree. In some departments (generally School of the Arts), students use the (first) given name of the professor instead of the family name, but this is not common. Some professors call students by their family name, such as Miss Kim, whereas others call students by their (first) given names, such as Joan, Itzak, or Hyun-sook. You should decide what name you wish to be called by your professors and introduce yourself by that name. Do what is comfortable for you.



Office hours: You can visit your professor during “office hours.” This is a time for professors to meet with students on an individual or small group basis. *Students* must take the initiative to make an appointment when they need help or personal attention. If you arrive and the door is shut, knock and ask, “May I come in?” Professors frequently keep their doors closed as a matter of privacy, but they want to talk to you and help you. Always ask for permission before you enter an office since the professor may be busy helping another student.



Be punctual and keep appointments: You should call if you are going to be late or need to cancel a scheduled appointment. Students are expected to be on time. Promptness is equated with courtesy in the U.S., and students should be prompt to class and appointments.



Equality: Professors are expected to treat all students equally. If you find this is not the case, be sure to consult an advisor or a dean. Professors will usually acknowledge their own errors and/or limited information. This acknowledgement is not viewed negatively and will not diminish respect.



Teaching Assistants (T.A.’s): T.A.’s are graduate students (occasionally undergraduate students) who assist a professor in various ways (for example, grading reports, reviewing papers, leading group discussions and study sessions, etc.). If you feel yourself falling behind in your work or would like to speak about an assignment, you can talk with your T.A., professor, the Academic Support Center, or an ISS Advisor.

Student - Student Relationships



Take the initiative: International students must take the initiative to approach American classmates for help (to borrow notes, to study or prepare for an exam, etc.). Classmates will often be willing to give out their phone number to a student who needs assistance. Students are often in competition with each other, are individualistic, and will challenge each other in class. Students are expected to work cooperatively on group projects and in discussion groups. You may ask another student in class to borrow or copy notes from a class you missed. Be sure to return the notes promptly. (The library has many photocopiers that can be used for a small fee per photocopy.)



Cheating is taken seriously and not seen as simply “helping” another student. Do not copy assignments from other students; you must do your own work. During exam time, be sure to never talk to another student, open up your notes, copy from another student’s paper or ask someone else to do your work – or you will be accused of cheating. Even asking to borrow a pencil or calculator during an exam can be misunderstood. Penalties may result in a failing grade or possibly expulsion.

Classroom Hints

Computer Labs

http://www.rit.edu/its/services/computer_labs/labs/labs.html

Student Guide to Plagiarism

<http://library.rit.edu/student-guide-plagiarism.html>

How to Cite Sources

<http://library.rit.edu/researchguides/citing.html>



Syllabus and Reading List: At the beginning of the quarter, the professor will distribute a syllabus (an outline of the course which gives topics to be covered, as well as deadlines for readings, papers and projects) and a reading list that delineates expectations and course requirements.



Time Management: Knowledge is seen as cumulative. It is important to study throughout the entire quarter. Since large amounts of work will be assigned and the quarter system moves quickly, time management is critical for academic success. Students must learn how to schedule study time and to skim materials. Deadlines are important (see syllabus and reading lists). Plan to take all tests and hand in all assignments on the days they are scheduled. Many teachers will not give make-up exams or accept late assignments. We recommend the use of an agenda where you can plan all your tasks per quarter and then just follow and update on a day-to-day basis. The RIT Academic Support Center will be happy to offer you support and assistance. You may also consult the Library website for tips on conducting research: wally.rit.edu/researchguides/resguides.html



Integrating Knowledge: On tests and in papers, students are not supposed to just memorize and repeat what the professor says. Students are expected to analyze and synthesize materials, solve problems, assert their own judgment and ideas, and formulate original and critical thinking.



Testing: If you need extra time to answer test questions in English, ask your professor before the exam. You should also ask to bring a dictionary to examinations if this will help you. Many times the professor will arrange for you to take the exam in her/his office. If you need help studying for a test or doing an assignment, go to a department tutor. Most academic departments have free tutoring available to students. Your teacher or your advisor can also help you get a tutor. Tests may be based on reading assignments, class lectures, labs, or a combination. Ask your professor to explain what material to expect on an examination so that you can prepare properly.



Grading: The final course grade is based on a number of factors and will vary from class to class but typically includes quizzes, mid-terms, finals, papers, oral presentations, take-home tests, attendance, and class participation. It is not a custom to negotiate with professors for grades. The grading system is intended to be fair. If you believe that your grade is not fair or that your professor made a mistake, you should make an appointment to discuss the grade. Never try to bargain. Some professors grade “on a curve,” meaning the grading scale is determined by overall class scores.



Plagiarism: When you write an academic paper, you must be sure to acknowledge the ideas you have taken from other people and sources. Representing someone else’s work as your own is called “plagiarism” and it is considered a serious offense in the United States (no more than three consecutive words exactly like the source may be used unless properly quoted). Students are expected to hand in papers or assignments that are original. This means that all of the writing in the paper must be composed by the student whose name appears at the top. In America, copyright laws protect words and ideas published in books and articles. Students who refer to books or articles in their papers must give proper credit to the author through proper notes and a bibliography. You can refer to the following website for more details: library.rit.edu/researchguides/citing.html. If you want to refer simply to an author’s idea, you can mention the author’s name and explain the idea in your own words. (i.e.: According to Professor Smart, the new international students represent the hope of the future). *Source: Dr. Joan Digby, Honors Dept. (LIU/CWP) and the ISS Office at Lesley Univ. 7/06.*

Computer and E-mail

Information and Technology Services

<http://www.rit.edu/its/>

ITS HelpDesk

Gannett Building, room 7B-1113

<http://www.rit.edu/its/help/>

Hours:

Mon-Fri: 7:30a.m.-5:00p.m.

Call 585-475-HELP (4357)

Or 585-475-2810

Email: helpdesk@rit.edu



To Access Email

<https://mymail.rit.edu/>

To Access Courses

<https://mycourses.rit.edu/index.asp>

Student Information System

<https://infocenter.rit.edu/>

myRIT

<https://my.rit.edu/uPortal/render.userLayoutRootNode.uP>

To Modify RIT Settings

<https://start.rit.edu/>

Information and Technology Services Help Desk offer the following services: Initial setup, Upgrades, Troubleshooting, Software support, including but not limited to, licensing, installation and troubleshooting, One-on-one consultations and recommendations in regards to software and hardware, File sharing, Printing, Peripherals and PDA setup and support, & Technology Education - Mobile Learning Assistants.

RIT Computer Account:

Your RIT computer account authenticates, or provides access through the username and password combination. Your username and password allow you to access many RIT services including e-mail, library resources, course materials, student information and registration. You can access most of the services authenticated through your RIT account as soon as your account is created but some have a waiting period.

How do I check my e-mail?

Your e-mail is always accessible via the web site at: google.rit.edu

How do I access myCourses?

The myCourses system can be accessed via: mycourses.rit.edu.

How do I register for classes and check my grades?

The Student Information System (SIS) allows you to perform these tasks and more. To log into SIS, you need to use your RIT Computer Account and password, plus your University Identification Number (UID) and a PIN (Personal Identification Number) that you set. When you initially activate your computer account you should be notified of your UID. If you do not know your UID, you may look it up at any time by logging on to the myRIT portal at my.rit.edu. Once you have your RIT Computer Account and password, you can log on to the SIS home page at infocenter.rit.edu. Using SIS, you can add and drop courses, check your class schedule, grades, and Grade Point Average (GPA), view open and closed courses, degree information, your Academic Advising Report (AAR), and quarterly exam schedule, review your quarterly charges, financial aid credits, and account payments, request a refund or transfer funds, check enrollment verifications and registration holds, change your PIN, review and update your home, local, and emergency addresses, and more!

How do I create or modify my personalized e-mail address or forward to an off-campus e-mail address?

To create or modify these settings, visit start.rit.edu.

How do I register my laptop for RIT Wi-Fi usage?

Go to <http://www.rit.edu/its/services/wireless/wpaconnect.html>

How do I get help? To obtain an RIT computer account, stop by the [ITS HelpDesk](#) in the Gannett Building (7B) room 1113. For general computer help, including help with your account, contact the ITS HelpDesk, call 585-475-HELP (4357), 585-475-2810 (TTY), e-mail helpdesk@rit.edu or consult the ITS web-site at www.rit.edu/its.

Electronic Resources

1.  <https://infocenter.rit.edu>

The Student Information System is one of the most useful portals in RIT's web-system. Here you can update your housing information, get access to your schedule and current GPA calculations, register for and drop courses, and review your financial information.



R·I·T My Courses

2.  <https://mycourses.rit.edu>

This application allows students and professors to interact. Here you will find syllabi, articles and assignments posted by your professors. Sometimes they will expect you to submit your assignments online through a "drop box". You can view your grades and your exam results using this portal as well. A significant portion of teamwork activities is also done through this portal.

3.  <https://registration.rit.edu>

Browse a complete list of courses for any department or search for a particular course you are interested in. You can plan your schedule by checking when a particular course is offered next, who teaches the course, or if it is available online. This application does not let you register for courses. You can do that via the Student Information System.

4.  <http://tigertracks.rit.edu>

A useful resource for undergraduate students from most colleges within RIT, this degree tracking system generates your individual degree audit report which you can use as a guide when planning your progress toward completion of your degree requirements.

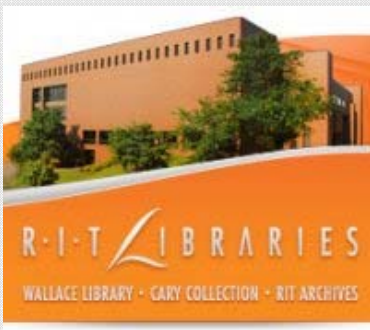
5.  <http://library.rit.edu>

RIT library is an essential resource for everything you need for your studies. Besides the traditional method of checking out books and textbooks, you can get access to the electronic library and numerous databases which would allow you to use library resources without leaving home. You can also get an online or in-person consultation from a librarian, if you are having trouble finding the necessary information.

6.  <https://my.rit.edu>

This page gives you a number of links to other useful academics-related resources. You can get access to the Academic Support Center, Bookstore, E-learning Zone, RIT Academics, Co-Op Education & Career Services etc. All of the above mentioned sites are also easily accessible from this page.

Note: You will need your active computer account (username and password) to properly use the aforementioned resources.



Cultural Adjustment

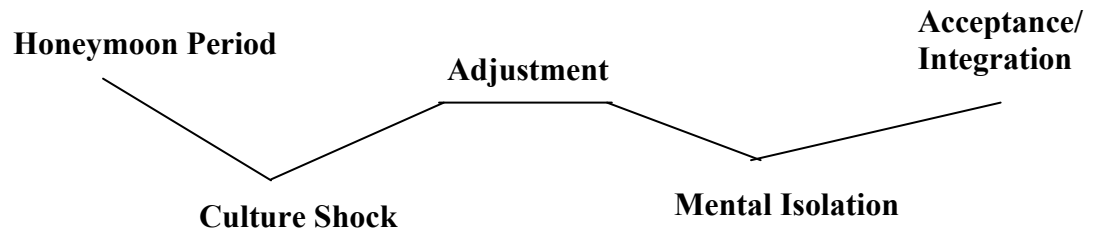
CULTURE SHOCK AND CULTURAL ADJUSTMENT

Learning to live in a new culture is never easy. For most people it is like riding a roller coaster with many ups and downs. You may feel very happy or excited one day and very sad or lonely the next day. **This is very common; everyone experiences some form of cultural stress. These feelings will eventually calm down or go away.** While you are adjusting to the United States, you may sometimes feel: homesick, boredom, withdrawal (for example, spending excessive amounts of time reading, avoiding contact with host nationals), need for excessive amounts of sleep, eating and/or drinking more than you normally do, irritability, stereotyping of and hostility toward host nationals, loss of ability to work effectively, unexplainable fits of crying, physical ailments (such as headaches or stomach aches).



THE CROSS CULTURAL ADJUSTMENT CYCLE

Each stage in this process is characterized by “symptoms” or outward and inward signs representing certain kinds of behavior or experiences.



Honeymoon Period: Initially, you will be fascinated and excited by everything that is new. You are at first elated to be in a new culture.

Culture Shock: A point where you are immersed in new problems, including housing, transportation, food, language, and making friends. Fatigue may result from continuously trying to comprehend and use the second language. You may wonder, “Why did I come here?”

Adjustment: Everyday activities such as housing and going to school are no longer major problems. Language skills and self-confidence are established. A routine has been developed.

Mental Isolation: You may be feeling lonely since you have been away from family and good friends. You might feel some frustration in not being able to express yourself as well as you can in your native language.

Acceptance/Integration: You have accepted the habits, customs, food and characteristics of the people in the new culture. You feel comfortable with friends, associates, and the language of the country.

Cultural Adjustment

SUGGESTIONS TO ASSIST YOU IN ADJUSTING TO YOUR NEW CULTURE

Learn and observe. Learn as much as you can about your host culture and your new environment.

Think positively. Try not to focus on the things you do not like about your host culture. Do not hang around people who have negative attitudes or are always complaining.

Look for logical reasons why things happen. This may help you see things in a more positive light.

Keep your sense of humor. Look for the funny side of embarrassing situations. Everyone makes mistakes; learn from yours.

Keep an open mind. Do not judge what you see as right or wrong, but instead challenge yourself to try to understand the many behaviors you will encounter. You don't have to participate in something you disagree with, but you should try to understand it.

Keep realistic expectations. Movies and television do not offer a realistic view of life in your host culture. If your expectations were different, you may need to re-evaluate them.

Set realistic goals for yourself. You may not be able to do as much as you did at home during your initial adjustment period. Re-evaluate your goals and expectations often.

Recognize anxiety and your frustration. Learning to live in a new culture is not easy. Allow yourself time to adjust. Take care of your body and your mind. Get regular exercise, eat well and get plenty of sleep (you may need extra sleep in the beginning).

Speak English as much as possible. Don't worry about making mistakes. Practice, practice, practice!

Go out. Take initiative. Find out where people meet and socialize, and make an effort to go to these places. Attend programs sponsored by ISS! Americans may have had less international experiences than you have. International students usually have to take the first steps in getting to know Americans.

Volunteer or engage in Community Service. There are many opportunities on and off campus to participate in community service – this is a great way to meet new people. Call or e-mail the RIT Student Volunteer Office at 585-475-6056 or svoccl@rit.edu to learn about opportunities for volunteering.

Fit into the rhythm of life in your new environment. Adjust to your new time schedule for meals, classes, socializing, and sleep.

Maintain relationships with friends and family at home, but make friends at your new school, too.

Keep your perspective. Hundreds of thousands of international students have gone through this same experience before you and succeeded. You will, too!

Ask for help when you need it, and draw upon your own personal resources for handling stress.

Joint Source:

Lesley University and Rochester
Institute of Technology, 7/2006



Cultural Adjustment

SEEKING HELP IN COPING WITH CULTURE SHOCK



International Student Services
<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/irs/iss/>

Academic Support Center
<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/irs/asc/>

Student Health Center
<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/irs/studenthealth/>

Global Union
<http://www.rit.edu/sg/globalunion/>

Student Organizations
<http://campuslife.rit.edu/main/clubs/index>

Counseling Center
<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/irs/counseling/>

THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES STAFF is happy to meet with you. They have overseas experience and are very familiar with the cultural adjustment process. They will also answer questions about your immigration status. All conversations are confidential. For more information about ISS, visit <http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/> or call 585-475-6943 to schedule an appointment.

The RIT ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

(<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/asc/>) offers you academic support and assistance through the form of classes, labs, and workshops in reading, writing, math and study skills.

The **RIT STUDENT HEALTH CENTER** will assist you if you are feeling sick or have other physical symptoms of culture shock and can aid you in determining where to seek attention of experienced doctors and nurses. Please visit the following website to learn more: <http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/studenthealth/>

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, beneath the larger “umbrella” organization known as GLOBAL UNION, provide an excellent opportunity to get involved on campus and allow you to meet fellow RIT students from around the world. Regular meetings and events are held. Find out more information about student clubs and organizations with an international focus at <http://www.rit.edu/sg/globalunion>, or visit <http://campuslife.rit.edu:81/main/clubs/all> to see a complete listing of student clubs at RIT.

The **RIT COUNSELING CENTER** is another resource if you would like to speak with a professional counselor. It is very acceptable to see a professional counselor in American culture. It does not mean you are mentally ill. No one will think less of you if you visit these offices. Counselors often see students about a variety of issues. All conversations are completely confidential. For information, visit the Counseling Center website at <http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/counseling/> or call 585-475-2261 to schedule an appointment.

YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS can often be a good source of support. Friends who have been in the United States longer than you have probably experienced the same feelings. Talk to friends who have a positive attitude about living in the United States. Your family can also be supportive, but they may also be worried about you since you are so far away. If you talk to your family when you are depressed, make sure you also talk to them when you are happy so they know you are doing better.

Counseling Center

Promoting & supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of the campus community

University life can be one of excitement and self-discovery. At the same time, it can generate academic, emotional, personal, social, and even financial concerns. Although not uncommon, at times these concerns can make it difficult to succeed or function while at school. Counseling is an excellent way to address such issues, to learn more about yourself and others, to develop new life skills, and to explore and gain insight, understanding and acceptance. All services provided by the Counseling Center are free to eligible RIT students. Counselors fluent in American Sign Language are available for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing students.



RIT Counseling Center
2nd floor August Center (#23A)
<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/counseling/>

Hours:
Mon, Tues, Fri: 8:30a.m.-
4:30p.m.
Wed, Thurs: 8:30a.m.-7:00p.m.

For appointment:
Call 585-475-2261

Common concerns shared by students include:

Academic performance	Choice of major or careers	Anxiety
Stress	Family, friend and	Feeling of being
Self-esteem	partner relationships	overwhelmed
Eating and body image	Depression	Sexual assault and
concerns	Gender identity	violence
Out of control feelings	Loss of an important	Sexual orientation
Illness or death of a	relationship	Race, ethnicity nationality,
loved one	Suicidal feelings	or other cultural identity

Confidentiality

All counseling services are confidential. The Counseling Center will not release information about you without your written permission except where required by law, as required to protect you or others from physical danger, or upon court order (an extremely rare occurrence). The Counseling Center will not give out information about you to RIT officials, faculty/staff, your family or roommates without your expressed permission.

Making an Appointment

Making an appointment is quite easy. Simply call (585) 475-2261 (Voice/TTY) or stop by the office located on the second floor of the August Building immediately across from the Student Life Center on RIT's "Quarter Mile." Please let us know immediately if you feel your concerns are an emergency.

Counseling Center Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.*

**4:30 p.m. during Finals, Break Weeks, and summer*

Phone: (585) 475-2261 (Voice/TTY)

Location: August Center (23A), 2nd Floor (Across from the Student Life Center)

Emergency or Crisis Appointments

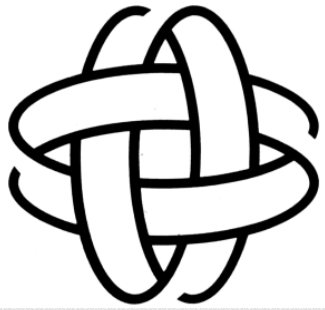
In the event of a mental health crisis during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.), please call 475-2261 (Voice/TTY) and identify the situation as an emergency, or call: Public Safety 475-3333 or call 911.

After-Hours Emergencies

For after-hours mental health emergencies, contact Public Safety: (585) 475-3333 (Voice/TTY) or call 911.
www.rit.edu/counseling. AOL IM: RITCounselingCtr

Rochester International Council

The Rochester International Council brings the Rochester community together with international college students and visitors to develop friendships, promote international understanding, and enhance the quality of life for our participants and the community. RIC is a nonprofit, volunteer organization, whose activities are nonsectarian and nonpolitical in content. Our activities and programs for international college students are endorsed and, in part, supported by local colleges and universities.



Rochester International Council

Morey Hall, room 229,
University of Rochester
www.rifc.org

Hours:

Mon-Fri: 10:30a.m.-5:00p.m.
Closed Thursday

Call 585-275-8779
Fax 585-756-8086

Application for Volunteer
Friendship Host
www.rifc.org/hostappl.html

International Insights Series

Our **International Insight Series** features panels of international students from a country or culture who provide different views of their society. A dinner and opportunities for further discussion follow the presentations.

**These events require advance registration.*

Friendship Volunteer Program

Friendship Volunteers, who can be a family, a couple, or an individual, are matched with international students to whom they offer practical assistance and social interaction. They may help you shop for clothing, food and household items, open a bank account, practice English, and understand American culture. Your hosts may invite you to their home for dinner and conversation, to share holidays and special events, or take you to places of interest, including museums and historical sites. If you would like to be matched with a Friendship Volunteer, complete the Application for Volunteer Friendship Host by visiting <http://www.rifc.org/hostappl.html>. If you have already applied but have not heard from a host, contact the RIC office.

In the words of a former RIC student, now a professor at SUNY Stony Brook... *After high school graduation, I left home and my family for the first time for a journey that has changed my life. I came to America to pursue a college education. The adaptation process was not easy. There were many times that I just wanted to go home. The RIC staff and my host family were my sources of strength at the time. My friendship volunteer induced a sense of family in this continent. I sometimes felt alone and frightened, but knowing her changed this feeling because, then I know, I have someone to turn to, someone who cares and I can trust. It helped me concentrate on my academic work and eventually the completion of my doctoral thesis. I cannot stress enough how beneficial it was for a foreign student to have a friendship family...*

International Wives Group

The **International Wives** group meets twice a month. It is open to wives, mothers and children of international students, as well as women from other countries living in the community. The purpose is to assist women in the adjustment to life in America and provide social interaction. There are informal presentations about subjects of interest and outings to local attractions.

Global Perspectives Program

Through our **Global Perspectives** program, international students volunteer their time to share their cultures through presentations at area K-12 classrooms.

Activities and Events

RIC- sponsored activities for students, scholars, and members for Fall 2011:

Sunday, Sept. 11

Welcome Picnic at Greece Canal Park

Friday, Sept. 23

Square Dance at the Barn

TBA*

Fall Hike to Letchworth Park

TBA*

Mt. Hope Cemetery Tour & Afternoon Tea

Thursday, November 4*

Thanksgiving Dinner

Student Health

Student Health Center (SHC)

1st floor August Center (#23A),
on "Quarter Mile"

<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/studenthealth/index.php>

Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Fri: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wed: between 12:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. is Emergency Only

For Appointment:
Call 475-2255

Health History Form

http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/studenthealth/documents/HHF_000.pdf

Aetna Student Accident and Sickness Plan

<http://aetnastudenthealth.com>

Click on "Find My School's Plan"
Policy Number: 812809

University Health Plans, Inc. Claim Form

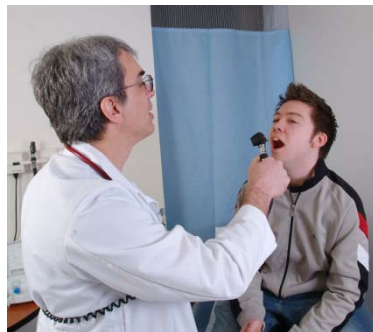
http://www.universityhealthplans.com/letters/letter.cgi?school_id=10

Insurance Waiver Form

https://www.universityhealthplans.com/secure/waiver.cgi?school_id=238

Student Health Fee

All full time undergraduates pay a mandatory student health fee each quarter, which appears on your bill from the Student Financial Services' office along with tuition, living expenses and other fees. The health fee covers most of the services offered **within** the Student Health Center (SHC), such as: Primary care appointments with a physician or nurse practitioner, Women's health care services, Psychiatric services, Allergy injections, some tests done within the SHC laboratory, Health education counseling and programming. There is no "co-pay" at the time of the visit. **Note:** some tests and services within the SHC are **not** covered by the health fee. There is a separate charge for: urine pregnancy tests, rapid strep tests, rapid mononucleosis tests, immunizations, medications purchased within the SHC (including contraceptives).



The SHC does not accept insurance, credit cards or debit cards for direct payment of charges. Cash, check and Flex 'Tiger Bucks' are the only accepted methods of payment within the SHC. You will be given a receipt which you may then submit to your insurance company for reimbursement.

Part time undergraduate, graduate, co-op students and students on a vacation quarter are not automatically billed for the health fee. They may still access SHC services either by paying the quarterly health fee (for unlimited visits within the quarter) or by paying a "fee for service" charge at each visit.

Insurance

All RIT students are required to carry insurance to cover services provided **outside** the SHC, such as: Referrals to specialty providers (orthopedics, dermatology, etc.), lab tests sent to an outside laboratory, X-rays and other imaging tests, prescription medications purchased outside the SHC, urgent care and emergency room visits, and hospitalization.

International students are automatically charged for the **Aetna Student Accident and Sickness Plan** offered through RIT. The plan provides coverage for a full calendar year and is not limited to services within Rochester. To learn more about costs, coverage, benefits, discount programs included in your plan, please visit www.aetnastudenthealth.com, click on "Find your school" and enter policy number 812809. For additional plan information or claim forms, please visit www.universityhealthplans.com/letters/letter.cgi?school_id=10. You can find an insurance card form at the International Student Services office. If you wish to exempt yourself from RIT insurance plan, you must fill out an Insurance Waiver form: https://www.universityhealthplans.com/secure/waiver.cgi?school_id=238

For students whose insurance coverage is provided by a spouse or parent residing outside the Rochester area, it is **very important** to check the policy thoroughly for coverage of "out of network" health-care services. If you are covered, please check to see what the policy requires for benefit coverage while the student is away from home. If you are not, please consider purchasing the RIT plan. State insurance plans such as Medicaid do not provide coverage outside the home state.

Be prepared....

- Know the name of your insurance company
- Bring a copy of your insurance card to **every** SHC appointment (they need the information if we send lab tests out or make a specialty referral)
- Know the basics of your plan, especially regarding out of network coverage
- Keep a copy of your policy with you on campus to refer to if needed
- Keep a copy of any claim forms or know how to obtain them if needed
- Keep a copy of all the forms, tests or else you bring and submit to RIT

Financial Services



Student Financial Services

1st floor University Service Center
(Building #87)

<http://finweb.rit.edu/sfs/>

Hours:

Mon-Fri: 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.

Call 585-475-6186

Fax 585-475-5307

Access Student Account

<https://ipay.rit.edu/eServices/login.do>

Payment Options

<http://finweb.rit.edu/sfs/billing/paymentoptions.html>

The Student Financial Services Office is located on the first floor of the University Services Center (Building #87). The Student Accounts area of the office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Cashier's area is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and until 4:30 p.m. on Friday. This office maintains student financial records, generates billings for tuition, fees, room and board, and works with students relative to their financial eligibility for registration. The Student Accounts area manages information related to billings, payment plans and student inquiries. The Cashier's area processes payments on student accounts as well as food and "Tiger Bucks" accounts, disburses refund checks, sells bus passes and cashes personal checks up to \$50.

Electronic Billing

The University has an electronic billing (eServices) program for students. eBills have replaced paper bill statements. Each quarter, all RIT students are sent an e-mail notification to their University e-mail account, stating that their eBill is available. Students have the option of selecting three additional e-mail addresses to allow for a parent, guardian, sponsor, or other authorized user to receive eBill notifications. Students can access their account using the RIT computer name and password at: <https://ipay.rit.edu/eServices/login.do>

Quarterly Billing Dates for 2011-2012

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
First Bill Generated	7/16/11	10/29/11	2/04/12	5/05/12
First Bill Due	8/17/11	11/21/11	2/29/12	5/24/12
Second Bill Generated	9/24/11	12/17/11	3/24/12	6/13/12
Second Bill Due	10/12/11	1/04/12	4/11/12	6/27/12

Costs and Payment Procedures

University billing statements may be paid in **cash, by check or electronic check (eCheck)**, which is the preferred method of payment. It is quick and easy. Payments applied can be seen immediately, or you can select a future date for payments to be applied. RIT does not accept credit card payments directly for tuition, fees, room and board that appear on the student billing statement. However, we have an arrangement for a third party vendor to accept MasterCard and Discover Card when payment is made online. The vendor charges a service fee for each credit card transaction. Credit card and eCheck payments can be made at <https://ipay.rit.edu/eServices/login.do>. Payments may be made in person at the Office of Student Financial Services on the first floor of the University Services Center. Check payments should be mailed to:

**Rochester Institute of Technology
Student Financial Services
P.O. Box 92878-200
Rochester, NY 14692-8978**

Wire information is listed below and also available on-line at <http://finweb.rit.edu/sfs/billing/paymentoptions.html>:

HSBC NYC
140 Broadway
NY, NY 10005-1180
Attn: Rochester
ABA 021001088

Credit To RIT Central Deposit 590831020
Swift Code MRMDUS33

Please Remember: Funds Must Be In US Dollars. Name and student identification number must be included. Only wire funds for RIT billed charges. Students living off campus should make arrangements to wire funds independent of RIT. Excess funds from wire transfers will be returned to origination of wire.

Financial Aid

There is very little financial aid for foreign nationals to study in the US, with the possible exception of citizens of Canada and Mexico. Most grants, scholarships, and loans from public and private sources are restricted to US citizens.



Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

<http://www.rit.edu/emcs/financialaid/>

Scholarships and Grants

<http://www.rit.edu/emcs/financialaid/scholarships.html>

Graduate Assistantships

<http://rit.edu/studentaffairs/SAGraduateAssistantships.php>

International Educations
Financial Aid

<http://www.iefaf.org/>

Private Loans

<http://www.rit.edu/emcs/financialaid/loans.html#privateloans>

Student Employment Office

<http://www.rit.edu/emcs/seo/>

Citi Bank Student Loans for
Graduate and Undergraduate
Students

<https://www.studentloan.com/>

Scholarships

RIT's Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships assists students and their families in identifying sources of financial aid to help meet the cost of a quality education. Financial aid for international undergraduate students is extremely rare. Scholarships for undergraduate international students are determined by the Undergraduate Admissions Office and are based on academic merit. In order to renew your scholarship, you need to enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher.

Foreign graduate students have significantly more opportunities for financial aid than foreign undergraduate students. The amount of financial aid for foreign graduate students is nevertheless limited. For graduate students, most scholarships and assistantships are awarded by the individual academic departments. In most cases, applicants for admission will be considered for scholarships and assistantships as long as they check the appropriate box on the application for admission. RIT Graduate Scholarships are awarded by academic departments in recognition of students' academic excellence. Awards carry with them the expectation that students will maintain a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average per term and make satisfactory progress toward their degrees. Students seeking more information about these awards should contact their graduate department coordinator. RIT Graduate Assistantships are offered to full-time matriculated graduate students to serve as teaching, research, or administrative assistants. Graduate Assistants receive wages (determined by the department making the appointment) in exchange for work performed. Students seeking more information about a possible appointment should contact their department's graduate coordinator. Another option is Outside Scholarships and Employer Tuition Waivers that are awarded by private (non-RIT) organizations. Search for them at http://www.rit.edu/emcs/financialaid/outside_scholarships.php

On campus employment

International students are eligible to earn additional funds by participating in RIT's student employment program. International students can earn an average of \$1,500 per year by working part-time on campus. Students work an average of 10 to 20 hours per week, and positions can be applied for through the Student Employment Office. On-campus student employment is limited to students who are full-time (minimum 12 credit hours) and matriculated (accepted into a degree program). The maximum number of hours a student can work per week when school is in session is 20 hours. For more information, please see the Employment section of this book.

International graduate students can accept pay for work related to their program of study if such work is approved by the academic department as curricular practical training (coop) and authorized by ISS.

Loans

International students can also apply for a private bank loan: www.edupass.org/finaid/, www.iefaf.org/ and www.internationalstudentloan.com to search for International Financial Aid and Scholarship information; and www.finaid.org/loans/privatestudentloans.phtml to find and to apply for a loan. When searching for a loan, always look at the eligibility criteria. Most private loans are available for U.S. citizens and permanent residents only. Private student loans in general have been difficult to obtain. Almost all programs require a co-signer (a U.S. citizen or permanent resident) and excellent credit for both parties, and require "school certification." An international student should not plan to fund his or her education with a loan. In addition, in order to apply for a loan, a student is required to be already enrolled in a program and have a DS-2019 or I-20 handy, as well as a Social Security Number.

RIT Wallace Library

Wallace Library
<http://library.rit.edu/>

Hours

Sun-Thurs: 7:30am-3:00 am.

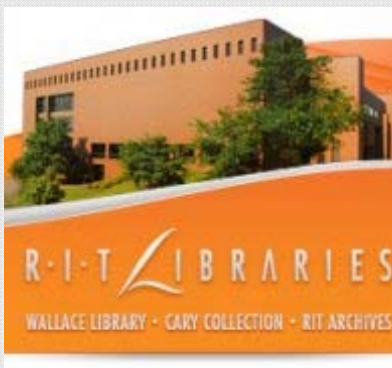
Fri and Sat: 7:30 am-12:00am

Note: On Saturdays and Sundays
the library opens at 9:00am.

The library also provides a room
for students after the library
closes. The room is located in
Java Wally's Café. After hours
are from 3:00 am to 7:30 am,
except on Fridays and Saturdays.



Library of Congress
classification system
<http://library.rit.edu/guides/doing-library-research/getting-started/library-congress-classification-system.html>



The RIT Wallace library is located opposite to the College of Liberal Arts (#6) and it is open all days of the week to serve RIT students and faculty members.

The RIT Wallace Library provides an excellent and comfortable environment for students to relax and at the same time study well. The RIT Wallace Library is very unique in many ways. The RIT Wallace Library has its very own Java Wally's Café inside the library. Students are allowed to bring in snacks and drinks into the library. The RIT Wallace Library consists of four floors and each floor is unique in the books and services it has to offer.

First Floor: The first floor is where the Circulation desk is located and it provides a number of services. The staff is extremely friendly and willing to assist students in a number of ways. Students can get reserve material and articles that are provided by professors. The Circ. Desk also has other items students can borrow for up to 4 hours such as calculators, rulers, 4 hour laptops and 2 day laptops at no charge.

Note: Students should be prepared to present their RIT id's to check out any book out of the library. A second form of Id is needed if one is checking out 2- day or 4-hour laptop. Students must also make advance bookings for 2-day laptops since they are limited in supply.

The following are types of books located on the following the first floor:

Reference Collection-The Reference Collection contains resources that are typically needed to locate quick facts such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, and biographical directories. These items cannot be taken out and is only for use in the library.

BERA (Business and Entrepreneurship Resource Area)- The Business and Entrepreneurship Resources Area (BERA) contains key business reference books along with selected new business books and some classic business titles across the various subjects taught in the E. Phillip Saunders College of Business.

Leisure Collection- This circulating collection consists of many bestsellers in the form of books, audio books, and videos.

Reserve Collection- This collection is maintained behind our Circulation Desk and consists mostly of materials that have been designated as course specific by members of our faculty. These items cannot be checked taken outside the library.

Second Floor: The second floor consists of a number of computers that students can access. More importantly the second floor happens to be a loud floor. It consists of the following:

- Newspapers
- Current Magazine Shelves
- Annual Reports
- Bound Periodicals
- Microfilm and Microfiche

Third and Fourth Floor: The third and fourth floor consists of a large number of books in various fields that can help students in their course work. These two floors are quiet zones and provide a good place to study. These can be taken out of the library. Books are shelved according to the Library of Congress classification system. For information visit the following link

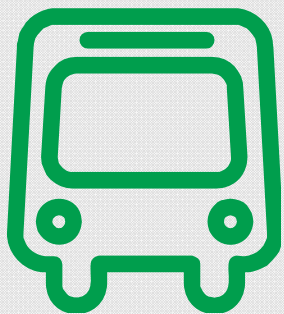
<http://library.rit.edu/guides/doing-library-research/getting-started/library-congress-classification-system.html>. The third floor consists of an archives collection

Additional Services: The Wallace library has study rooms (located on the 3rd and 4th floor) that can be used by RIT Students and a reservation can be made for these rooms. RIT Libraries provides access to several thousand journals and magazines. The majority of our collection is in electronic format, full text articles from over 30,000 titles can be retrieved electronically both on-campus and remotely. This can all be done by visiting the website.

Transportation

RIT Transportation

RIT Transportation,
RIT Shuttle Services and
RIT Shuttle (#28/33) Schedule
facilities.rit.edu/pats/transportation/



Public Safety Services –
<http://finweb.rit.edu/publicsafety>

Rochester Genesee Regional
Transportation Authority
<http://www.rgta.org/>

RIT Campus Shuttle (#33) -- Traverses the RIT campus along Andrews Memorial Drive and the various residential centers (University Commons, Colony Manor, Perkins Green, River knoll, Greek Housing) on campus. This route also stops at Park Point residential areas and at Barnes & Noble. This service operates weekdays (M-F) from approximately 7 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Weekend service is available from approximately 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Slightly revised schedules are provided during breaks and summer quarter. Although operated by RTS, the service is free for RIT students with valid RIT IDs. Popular shopping destinations such as Southtown Plaza, Marketplace mall, Wegmans, Target and Wal-Mart as well as Regal Cinema are included into this shuttle's schedule on Saturdays and Sundays. <http://finweb.rit.edu/grms/pats/transportation/schedules/137.pdf>.

Green Line Shuttle -- Connects campus to the RIT Inn and Conference Center, and the Racquet Club apartments. It operates weekday (M-F) from approximately 7 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. This shuttle also stops at Marketplace Mall late in the evening (starting at about 6 pm) and weekends (all day). Weekend service is available from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Slightly revised schedules are provided during breaks and summer quarter. Schedules for both RIT Campus shuttle and Green Line Shuttle routes are available at the Parking and Transportation Services office, at the Information Desk (SAU building, 1st floor) and at: <http://finweb.rit.edu/grms/pats/transportation/shuttle.html>. Schedules are subject to change and are updated quarterly. Please note that RIT transportation services are not available when the University is officially closed due to a holiday (federal or Christmas/New Year's week) or emergency closures due to inclement weather conditions. Please be aware that Regional Transportation Services (RTS) provides reduced services during all federal holidays. Public Safety provides students with Mobile Escort van and walking escort service if students need to traverse the campus late at night (<http://finweb.rit.edu/publicsafety/safety/>)

City Transportation- Although buses and subways are very common everywhere in Europe and Asia, only big cities in the U.S. have a well developed public transportation. And Rochester is not an exception. The Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority (<http://www.rgta.org/>) provides transit services throughout the greater Rochester metropolitan area, but it is not a very convenient and popular method of commuting for RIT students; there is only one route that provides direct service to the RIT campus on a daily basis from downtown Rochester - **RTS Route 24**. This bus runs through Rustic Village – a popular off-campus housing option for RIT students. In order to get to any other destinations, you will need to switch between routes. In order to plan a trip or request information about schedules, routes and payment options, please visit the Information Desk at SAU or check www.rgta.com/SchedulesMaps/Schedules.aspx?RTS Common taxi services are listed here <http://facilities.rit.edu/pats/transportation/> and if you are interested in buying or selling a vehicle, you can go to www.sellmycar.com for more information.

Driving and Parking

RIT Parking Services

Grace Watson Hall (#25)
Hours: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
www.rit.edu/parking



Applying for NYS Drivers License

<http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/license.htm#newdrivers>



NYS Department of Motor Vehicles

<http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/idlicense.htm>

ABC School of Driving

www.abcsofdriving.com




RIT Parking Services

RIT Parking and Transportation Services (PATS) provide various parking permits and services. All vehicles used and parked on campus **must** be registered with the Parking Office (located in Grace Watson Hall, building #25). Please refer to the parking website at www.rit.edu/parking for the parking regulations and services offered.

A valid driver license from another country is also valid in NYS. You do not need to apply for a NYS driver license unless you become a resident of NYS: <http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/license.htm#driversfromothernations>; <http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/resident.htm> (international students who attend school in NYS are not considered residents of NYS). **International Driving Permit: an International Driving Permit is not a driver's license.** The permit is issued in your home country, and only verifies that you hold a valid driver's license in your home country. **Your foreign drivers license, not the International Driving Permit, allows you to drive in NYS.** You are not required to have an International Driving Permit to drive in NYS, but the permit has value. The permit verifies, in several languages, that you have a valid foreign driver's license. A police officer who cannot read the language on your foreign driver's license can read the permit.

According to NYS law, a resident of another country can get a NYS drivers license.

In order to get your NYS license, you need to:

-  1. Read this: "New Drivers – How to Apply:" <http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/license.htm#newdrivers>
-  2. Go to the Monroe County DMV Office Henrietta branch (Henrietta Branch) Suburban Plaza 2199, E. Henrietta Road Rochester, NY 14623, call 1-518-486-9786) to apply for your learner's permit. You will have to pass a short theory test, a vision test, pay your fees and have your picture taken. You will need to provide a few IDs, including Social Security Number (SSN). If you are not eligible for a Social Security Card, you must provide a letter or form SSA-L676 from the US Social Security Administration (SSA) that states you are not eligible. The SSA Letter or form must have been issued no more than 30 days before the date of your application. Read the specific requirements on the identification requirements page of the NY DMV website: <http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us/idlicense.htm>
-  3. Practice your driving and a road test, and complete a 5-hour pre-licensing training course. For driving lessons or 5-hour course information, you can contact ABC School of Driving that has years of experience in instructing international students (visit www.abcsofdriving.com or call 585-530-9344). Schedule and take your road test. Allow a month between the day when you schedule your road test and the actual date of your test.

However the DMV does not recommend you getting a NYS because when you receive your NYS driver's license, you must surrender your foreign driver's license to the DMV road test examiner. The local DMV office keeps your foreign, and then **destroys the license after 60 days.** If you plan to return to your home country and use your foreign license, ask the road test examiner how to make sure that your foreign driver license is not destroyed. If you need to get your license back, go to the local DMV office where you applied for your NYS license.

Housing

RIT Housing Operations

Grace Watson Hall (East office)
University Services Center (West office)

<http://finweb.rit.edu/housing/>

Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m



OCASA (Off Campus and Apartment Student Association)

Campus Center, Room 2010

[http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/ocasa/)

[ocasa/](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/ocasa/)

Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 9:00a.m.-10:00p.m.

Fri: 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

Internet Resources for
Apartment Searching:

<http://rochester.craigslist.org/hhh>

<http://www.therentersguide.com/>

<http://www.rentrochester.com/>

<http://www.roommates.com/>

<http://www.rent.com/>

<http://www.mynewplace.com/>

[http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/ocasa/)

[ocasa/](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/ocasa/)

<http://maps.google.com>

On campus:

Sign up for RIT on campus housing before you arrive. Freshmen students must stay at Residence Halls during their first year, but all other students are responsible for completing necessary forms and securing their housing. Please be aware that although RIT Inn and Racquet Club are considered to be a part of RIT on campus housing, they are, in fact, located off campus, and you will have to take a shuttle (free for RIT students) to get to the campus. For more information about housing options and Special-Interest housing, visit Housing Operations web site at <http://finweb.rit.edu/housing/>

Off campus:

Many students, especially graduate students, choose to stay off campus. The rent is usually lower, and apartments might be newer and more comfortable. RIT's OCASA (Off Campus and Apartment Student Association) helps students with finding off campus housing. Their services will be available to you once you arrive. OCASA holds apartment fairs where all the surrounding apartment complexes' representatives come to distribute the information. Check with OCASA for the dates.

Another resource many students find useful for finding off campus housing is Housing Connections (<http://finweb.rit.edu/housing/connection/>). Here you can look for housing and roommates. You will not find off-campus ads there, but if you make a post, it's likely you be contacted by at least few people offering an off campus housing option to you.

Also, check popular internet resources such as:

<http://rochester.craigslist.org> and click on "Housing"

<http://www.therentersguide.com>

<http://www.rentrochester.com>

<http://www.roommates.com>

<http://www.rent.com>

<http://www.mynewplace.com>

In order to search the sites, you might be asked to enter a **zip code: 14623**

Tips for those who are considering staying off campus:

1. You need to make sure the housing that you choose is located within walking or biking distance (although it might be problematic in winter) from RIT, or that is located on a bus line. Even if you plan to buy a car, it will still take some time, and given that public transportation in Rochester is not well developed you might be unable to commute. Useful resources for planning bus trips are: www.rgrta.org and <http://maps.google.com/>. Using the "get directions" tab", and fill out the form and destination address, then click on "PUBLIC TRANSIT" to get your directions.
2. Apartments are usually not furnished, and if they are, the rent will be higher. You may buy used furniture and sell it again once you move out.
3. Apartment complex might offer some of the following amenities for no charge to the residents: fitness center, sports playgrounds, basketball and tennis courts, pool, library, laundry facilities; business center.
4. Lease (rent) term is usually one year; shorter periods might be available for a surcharge
5. Security deposit needs to be submitted with the application in an amount equal to 1-2 months' rent
6. Rent payment may or may not include heat/water/gas/cable TV/Internet access/garage/electricity costs/laundry.
7. You might be required to present a proof of income, and/or a co-signer or guarantor might be required for non-U.S. residents.

Legal Services

Student Government
<http://sg.rit.edu/goals/services.html#>

American Civil Liberties Union,
Genesee Valley Chapter
<http://www.nyclu.org/regions/genesee>

Lawyer Referral Service
<http://www.mcba.org/community/lrs.html>

Legal Aid Society of Rochester
<http://www.lasroc.org/>

International Student Services
Immigration Resources
<http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/immigrationandemploymentimmigrationresources.php>

Monroe County Legal Service
Guide
<http://www.mcba.org/community/LegalServicesGuide.htm>

Additional legal advice:
<http://www.greencardslaw.com/>
<http://www.attorneypawar.com/>
<http://www.usavisa.net/>
<http://www.hselaw.com>

Student Government provides free legal advice from an attorney. The lawyer is available in the Student Government office by appointment Tuesday and Thursday 7:30-9:45 AM. Contact Student Government at 475-2204 (v/tty) or e-mail sgstaff@rit.edu or kahhcc@rit.edu to make appointments. Any legal concerns can include but not limited to child support, landlord/tenant issues, contracts, starting a business, traffic violations, D.W.I., wills and estates, and **immigration issues**.
<http://sg.rit.edu/goals/services.html#>



Other resources include:

- **The American Civil Liberties Union** – available for persons whose civil rights have been violated. Legal advice and representation in selected cases by a panel of volunteer lawyers. Services are **free**. Call (585) 454-4334. <http://www.nyclu.org/regions/genesee>
- **The Lawyer Referral and Information Services**. The Lawyer Referral Service maintains a list of private lawyers who have designated their specific areas of practice. They have agreed to provide 30-minute consultations within their areas of practice to answer any questions you may have, and to offer legal advice. Call (585) 546-2130 for a referral to a lawyer. There *is* a \$40.00 referral fee. Should you choose to hire the lawyer after the initial consultation; fees will be arranged between you and that lawyer. <http://www.mcba.org/community/lrs.html>
- **The Legal Aid Society of Rochester** – Handles most cases (family, law, immigration, tenant/landlord issues). Call (585) 232-4090. <http://www.lasroc.org/>
- Other resources from ISS web site – <http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/immigrationandemploymentimmigrationresources.php>
- **Monroe County Legal Services Guide** - <http://www.mcba.org/community/LegalServicesGuide.htm>

You may also seek a legal advice from the following immigration attorneys:

Margaret Catillaz
Harter Secrest and Emery LLP
1600 Bausch and Lomb Place
Rochester, NY 14604-2711
(585) 232-6500
www.hselaw.com
mcatillaz@hselaw.com

Michael Berger
Berger and Berger
555 International Drive, Suite 800
Buffalo, NY 14221
(585) 634-6500
www.usavisa.net
mberber@usavisa.net

Other lawyers can be found through AILA - American Immigration Lawyers Association - www.aila.org

Dining Services

The truth is we all need to eat! RIT campus offers a variety of dining options to meet every need. So how does it work? Here are some tips!

Dining Services

<http://finweb.rit.edu/diningservices/>

Call 475-2228

Toll Free 800-724-5104

Meal Plans

<http://finweb.rit.edu/diningservices/mealplans/0910/resident.html>

Add money to your Tiger Bucks account

<https://ipay.rit.edu/eServices/login.do>



How can I pay?

The most common way for students to pay for meals is with your University ID card. This card keeps track of your meal plan (debit account) and/or your Tiger Bucks (a kind of “virtual” money used on campus and many other places (for more information go to <http://finweb.rit.edu/diningservices/>) to pay for different services and products, including food, books, and more). Or, you can always pay with cash or credit card in case you forget your student ID.

What is a meal plan?

Resident Plans: Students residing in a residence hall must select a meal plan. Freshmen may choose one of the four flexible meal plans described below. First year students are considered freshmen. All “Plus” plans include a debit account. You may add to this debit account at any time with Visa/MasterCard. Meals on these plans are served in Gracie’s and have unlimited seconds. Each meal plan includes five “Meal Options” that may be used in a food service area other than Gracie’s. For example, if you have the 14 Plus meal plan, five of the 14 meals may be eaten in Food Service areas other than Gracie’s. These “Meal Options” will buy you the equivalent of \$6.50 worth of food in the Brick City Café, Market & Café at the Crossroads, Ritz Sports Zone, the Deli at Golisano, Sol’s, The Commons, Beanz, or the Corner Store. When paying for your food, be sure to ask the cashier to use your Meal Option. If your meal costs more than the \$6.50 you’ll need to pay the difference with cash, debit, or Tiger Bucks. Second year or higher students are considered upper-classmen. Students in this category may select one of the meal plans listed above or the following additional plans: All Debit (\$1,353) or RIT Inn (\$1,025).

What happens if you don’t use all your meals during a week or debit amount during a quarter?

Unfortunately, designated meals cannot be accumulated, amounts cannot be transferred to the next period of time, and there is no refund. But, you can always pay for your friends or family members with the money from your debit account! Keep in mind, though, that food

debit or Tiger Bucks are not cash cards, meaning you cannot receive cash from these accounts.

It seems like the amount on your debit is running low, but you still have a few more weeks ahead! What should you do?

You can always add some money to your debit or Tiger Bucks account! You can do it at the Dining Services Administration Office, Student Financial Services, or any Dining Services cashier station, or electronically at: <https://ipay.rit.edu/eServices/login.do>. You may also phone your deposit into the Dining Services Office at (585) 475-2228 (V/TTY) or toll free: 1-800-724-5104, using a VISA or MasterCard.



Is eating healthy possible? Even if you have some restrictions (e.g. I don’t eat pork, beef, I need lactose-free products, I’m a vegetarian, etc.)?

Yes! RIT campus food facilities offer a great number of healthy choices. Fresh salads and fruits, whole grain or wheat pasta, fresh yogurts, vegetarian entrees, soups and burgers, grilled fish and chicken breast, trans fat free frying and cooking oils used in cooking, fat-free turkey meat, fat-free, lactose-free and skimmed milk and other dairy products, etc. If you have any other questions about eating on campus, please contact the Dining Services Office at 475-2228 (V/TTY) or toll free: 1-800-724-5104, or check out the website at: <http://finweb.rit.edu/diningservices/>

Dining Locations

Beanz

Mon – Fri: 7:30 am - 11 pm

Sat & Sun: 11 am - 11 pm

The Café & Market at the Crossroads

Mon – Thu: 7:30 am - 10 pm

Friday: 7:30 am - 6 pm

Sun: Noon - 8 pm

The Commons

Mon - Fri: 11am – Midnight

Sat & Sun: Noon - Midnight

The Corner Store

Mon - Fri: 8 am - 2 am

Sat & Sun : 10:30 am – 2pm

Gracie's

Mon- Thu: 7 am - 7:30 pm

Friday: 7 am - 7 pm

Saturday: 8 am - 7 pm

Sunday: 11 am - 7 pm

Ritz Sports Zone

Mon – Thu: 11 am - 7 pm

Friday: 11 am - 6 pm

Ctrl Alt Deli at Golisano

Mon – Thu: 7:30am – 6:30 pm

Friday: 7:30 - 3 pm

Brick City Café

Mon – Fri: 7 am – 3:30 pm

Sat & Sun: Closed

Sol's Underground

Daily: 11 am - 11 pm

Bytes on the Run

Mon – Thurs: 9 am - 9 pm

Fri: 9am – 7pm

Saturday: 10 am - 7 pm

Sunday: Noon - 7 pm

Artesano Bakery & Café

Mon – Thurs: 7:30am – 6pm

Friday: 7:30am – 5pm

Sat & Sun: 10am-2pm

Salsaritas

Mon-Thurs: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Friday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m

Beanz is a coffee shop and lounge located in the Grace Watson lobby and serves the popular Spot Coffee and many great Freshens Smoothies, along with fresh baked Otis cookies and loads of treats from our bakery!

The Café & Market at the Crossroads is one of the most popular dining adventures at RIT, featuring pasta & pizza, made to order salads, deli sandwiches and soups, food hot off the grill, Asian cuisine, and more! They have a **full convenience store inside Crossroads too**. Aspirin for your headache, milk, microwave meals, fresh fruit, a wide selection of beverages, candy, cereals and plenty of chips!

The Commons: Relax and dine in our newly renovated facility located on the second floor of the NTID Student Development Center. Open seven days a week. We are also your late night dining place. Choices include stone oven pizza and pasta cucina, char broiled sandwiches from the grill, toasty Quiznos Subs, salads made just the way you like it, and lunch and dinner chef's specials.

The Corner Store is located in Nathaniel Rochester Hall across from the Post Office. Pick up a snack or the fixings for a whole meal! The store is filled with fresh produce, sandwiches, chips, beverages, microwavable entrees, ice cream, detergents, and tons of other good stuff!

Gracie's: Grace Watson Dining Hall (better known as Gracie's) is the largest dining facility on campus. Offering an all-you-can-eat concept, Gracie's serves three meals a day with the exception of Sunday, when we offer brunch and dinner. When paying with cash or Tiger Bucks: Breakfast \$7.90; Brunch/Lunch \$10.00; Dinner \$11.25. When paying with "all debit," Breakfast \$6.70; Lunch - \$8.50; Dinner - \$9.50.

Ritz Sports Zone is the place to be for good food, fun, and real good entertainment! Located in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union in the heart of the RIT campus, the Ritz grill is the home of Oscar's Hot Burger, an original since 1985. They also serve great tasting chicken and wings, deli sandwiches, and more! The **Ritz Sports Zone** is also home to the **Game Room**, where you can play a variety of video and pinball games, darts, pool, foosball and air hockey, and **ESPN Sports Center Desk!**

The Deli at Golisano is located in the atrium of the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing Science Building offering delicious quesadillas, pita pizzas, wraps and much more.

Brick City Café is centrally located in the Student Alumni Union Building. For breakfast, enjoy a variety of grilled items cooked-to-order, along with our daily specials, and fresh baked goods, hot entrées and vegetarian selections, homemade soups, chili, grill, sandwiches made-to-order, fresh seasonal salad bar, daily specialties. Daily you'll be able to stretch your budget with our "Five for Five"-at least five meals for \$5!

Sol's Underground is located on the A level of Sol Heumann on the east end of campus surrounded by the residence halls. We offer a variety of classic milkshakes and frozen delights, made to order flatbread wraps and pizza, soups, and baked treats.

Artesano Bakery & Café is located in the SAU's first floor offering numerous desserts, pastries and coffee.

Bytes on the Run. Welcome to our brand new, convenient 'grab and go' store located in the breezeway of the Student Alumni Union (in front of Artesano).

Salsaritas is a café located in Global Village. It serves authentic Mexican food like burritos, delicious quesadillas, tacos, nachos etc. Global Village also offers a sushi bar and a Chinese grill.



Employment on Campus


*****Reminder: International students are eligible to work up to 20 hrs per week on campus during academic quarters and up to 40 hours per week during breaks and approved vacation quarters. (International students are entitled to one vacation quarter per academic year, upon approval by International Student Services.)**


HOW TO GET A JOB ON CAMPUS:


Student Employment Office
<http://www.rit.edu/emcs/seo/>


International Student Services
http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/about_location.php

Social Security Office in
Rochester, NY
<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/FOLO/Controller>


1.  Enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours, or have a full-time equivalency for the quarter(s) of employment.

2.  Apply for a job on campus. Get a Student Employment Verification Slip from your employer, which you will then take over to the Student Employment Office (SEO) to receive your Employment Eligibility Card and fill out your I-9 form.

3.  After you've filled out your I-9 form at the SEO, go and ask for a copy of the Hire Form from your employer with an original signature. Bring this Hire Form to International Student Services (ISS) so that we can write a Social Security Request letter on your behalf.

4.  You must now apply for a Social Security Number. In order to apply, you will need to travel to the downtown Social Security Administration office (SSA) and apply in-person. Students must arrange their own transportation or take the Rochester Public Bus (Bus # 24). Directions via bus are available in ISS and on the ISS website. Please bring the following documents with you when you go to the SSN Office:

- your Hire Form
- a Social Security Request letter written by ISS
- a completed Social Security Application form (go to ISS for application)
- original passport with visa, I-94 card, and I-20.

5.  **Please request a receipt confirming the submission of your application**, and then bring the receipt to International Student Services so we can copy it for your file. **Paychecks will not be distributed unless this receipt is on-file in our office. Failure to apply for a social security number will result in termination of your employment.**

*****Reminder: For students on an F-1 visa, you are eligible for a Social Security Number only if you have been offered a job. Students who accept employment at RIT must be willing to fulfill their commitment to their employer. If circumstances change and you are no longer able to work, a minimum of 2 weeks' notice must be given to your employer. Students should not pursue employment at RIT for the sole purpose of obtaining a social security number.**

If you are on a J-1 visa, please speak with an ISS Advisor regarding social security regulations pertaining to your visa status.

Employment Off Campus

RIT's Office of Co-op and
Career Services

<http://www.rit.edu/emcs/oc/>

CPT

How do I apply for OPT?

[www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/
/howdoi_applyforopt.php](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/howdoi_applyforopt.php)

[http://www.rit.edu/studentaffa
irs/iss/forms/First%20OPT%2
0information.pdf](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/forms/First%20OPT%20information.pdf)

OPT

Can I work off-campus?

The following information is for F-1 students, but the rules for J-1 employment are very similar. J-1 students must contact their program sponsor (RIT, Fulbright Foundation, etc.) to discuss co-ops and academic training. For F-1 students, there are two types of off-campus employment: (1) Curricular Practical Training (CPT), and (2) Optional Practical Training (OPT). For both types, you must first have been enrolled full time for a full academic year (9 months).

You must first get work authorization from ISS Office!

Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

- Register for a class called “Co-op” with both your academic department and the Co-op/Career Services Office. Not all departments allow Co-op, and each department has different Co-op requirements. You will need to check with your department. The Co-op office will assist in your search, but it is up to you to find the Co-op. They also provide resume and interview workshops.

- Make an appointment with International Student Services as soon as you have registered for the Co-op. Bring a copy of your job offer letter showing the company name, address, and the co-op start and end date. ISS will then issue you a new I-20 with CPT authorization so you can legally work for that company only. Do NOT start working until ISS issues you a new CPT I-20.

Optional Practical Training (OPT)

OPT is a 12 month authorization card issued by US Immigration for you to work at any company in your field of study. To be eligible:

- You must have used less than 12 months of full-time CPT.
- All of your required coursework must be complete.
- You do not need a job offer, but once you are approved for OPT, the 12 months will begin, whether or not you actually find work. Unemployment is limited to 90 days during your 12 month block of OPT.
- Apply 3 months before your requested OPT start date.

ISS offers OPT workshops every quarter – a schedule of upcoming workshops will be sent via e-mail. Plan on attending an OPT workshop 1 or 2 quarters before you graduate to get all your questions answered.

Can I volunteer off-campus?

All off-campus work requires authorization. This includes volunteering or working for free.

- The only exception is for jobs where no one is ever paid (example: volunteer food server at a church soup kitchen for the poor).
- If you are doing something that another person could be doing for pay, it is work and needs authorization/permission from ISS.

Social Security tax and Medicare tax should not be deducted from your paychecks, but NY State and Federal Taxes will be deducted by your employer and sent to the government. You must file a tax return in the winter and you will likely be refunded many of these taxes. ISS offers on-line software for filing prior to the April tax return filing deadline.

Note: J-1 students must obtain Academic Training authorization from RIT International Student Services prior to starting any employment.



Campus Life

www.campuslife.rit.edu/main/clubs

Ethnic & Cultural Clubs

<http://campuslife.rit.edu/main/clubs/category?id=5&name=Cultural>

Global Union

www.rit.edu/sg/globalunion/



OCASA

www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/ocasa/



Student Government

<http://sg.rit.edu/>



Center for Women and Gender

www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/womenscenter/

Campus Life

Campus Life: <http://campuslife.rit.edu/main/clubs>

Campus Life at RIT exists to bring students of similar interest together and provide them with opportunities to become effective leaders. These groups enhance the quality of student life by fostering social interaction, leadership development, school spirit and an affinity to RIT. They promote activities, diversity, service and learning outside of the classroom. Currently there are approximately 155-160 active clubs, 10 Major Student Organizations, and 29 Greek Organizations on campus. RIT welcomes and embraces all of its unique, student operated clubs and organizations. Here you can also find information about **ethnic/cultural clubs:** <http://campuslife.rit.edu/main/clubs/category?id=5&name=Cultural>

The 7th Annual Club Fair: Sunday, September 6, 2009, 1:00 – 4:00 pm, Gordon Field House

Global Union: www.rit.edu/sg/globalunion/

RIT Global Union is a Major Student Organization which functions as an umbrella organization for the international students and all the cultural clubs on campus and which represents the interests of all affiliates and members before the RIT Student Government. It promotes understanding of diversity and the development of a strong multicultural movement within our community. The organization creates awareness of global and international issues while encouraging interaction, understanding and union among all the different ethnic groups that converge at RIT. The RIT constituency includes over 2,000 international and American students, and 27 cultural clubs. GU is located on the lower level of the Student Alumni Union (building 04, room A448/A446), and can be reached at ritglobalunion@gmail.com.

OCASA: www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/ocasa/

The mission of the Off-Campus and Apartment Student Association (OCASA) is to represent the off-campus and apartment student body by providing needed services, events, information, political awareness, better visibility and communication between the off-campus students and the RIT community. As well as representing our constituents, OCASA offers a variety of services pertinent to the needs of the large off-campus and apartment population. These services include computer access, faxing, copying, printing, daily newspapers, lockers, and a lounge area. Fresh coffee, tea, and hot chocolate are available free every day, plus a microwave and refrigerator for students to use. Located: SAU (building #4), 1st floor. Call (585) 475-6680 to learn more about upcoming Apartment Fairs!

Student Government: <http://sg.rit.edu/>

Student Government is the representative body for the students of RIT. It is the students' voice on all institute policies, developments, and decisions. SG is comprised of senators from each of the colleges, community senators, representatives from the Major Student Organizations (MSOs), the executive cabinet, and two advisors. It is SG's job to ensure that the student perspective is taken into account when decisions are made.

Center for Women and Gender (CWG): www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/womenscenter/

The mission of the CWG is to foster an educational environment in which women can be personally, academically and professionally successful. The areas of focus include Community Enhancement; Health and Wellness; Leadership Development; etc. They offer education and referrals for relationship, sexuality, pregnancy, body image, harassment/discrimination and sexual assault issues. The CWG is also a 24-hour comprehensive service for students involved with sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking (CARES). Call 585-295-3533 (v/text) or contact the CWG at 585-475-7464 (v/tty) to access this service.

RIT Leadership Institute: <http://campuslife.rit.edu/leadership/>

Located in the Campus Center (Bld. 3) Suite 1030 and directed by Molly McGowan, RLI is a great source for Leadership Programs and future Career Opportunities. They offer various Leadership Certificates at no additional cost like the Global Leadership Program, the Women's Career Leadership Program, Leading Others, Personal Success Skills and else. Many workshops like their Fall and Spring Overnight Retreat, the Paychex annual Leadership Conference and Connectology present great opportunities for students who want to stand out to employers and be successful. Contact them through their website or call 585-475-6974; their fax is 585-475-4130.

Multi-cultural Center for Academic Success (MCAS): <http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/northstar/>

Established in 2000 as part of an Institute wide initiative to increase student retention and graduation, we serve all students at RIT, regardless of ethnic background, but primarily exist to retain and graduate African American, Latin American, and Native American (AALANA) students at Rochester Institute of Technology. In addition to being an academic support unit we emphasize and support student development through personal advising, advocacy, leadership development opportunities, cultural diversity education, cultural programming and a

connection to campus and community resources. Contact them through their website or call 585-475-4704. Their fax number is 585-475-4755

Religious Life



Center for Religious Life
Caroline A. and Kilian F.
Schmitt Interfaith Center (east
of SAU)
www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/religion
Call 585-475-2135

Hillel House
<http://www.rochesterhillel.org>

The Caroline A. and Kilian F. Schmitt Interfaith Center, located on the east end of the Student Alumni Union, is home for the **Center for Religious Life**. The Center is a place – and a space – for quiet prayer and community laughter, of meditation and pizza dinners, of choral concerts or students playing guitars, or just hanging out to play the pianos in the chapels. Visit: www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/religion

Hillel: A Resource for Jewish Students

Contact: Kourtney Spaulding

Executive Director

Office: 585-275-5981

kescpm@rit.edu

Shabbat, Holidays, Seders, Etc.

Shabbat services are held Friday evenings. Services begin at 6:00pm followed by a wonderful home cooked Shabbat Dinner.

<http://www.rochesterhillel.org/>

Muslim Student Association

Contact: Rauf Bawany

Muslim Chaplain

Office: (585) 475-4373

E-mail: rxbcpm@rit.edu

Jumuah Prayer-

Muslims on campus observe the Friday prayer, which is 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Skalny Room of the Center for Religious Life. The MSA provides “Iftaar” (breaking the fast) during the holy month of Ramadan.

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Contact: Nathan Krause

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Office: (585) 475-5171

E-mail: npkcpm@rit.edu

Church

Worship services will be offered once a week. The day and time of the services for each quarter will be determined by the students.

Catholic Campus Ministry

Contact: TBD

Catholic Campus Ministry

Office: (585) 475-5172

E-mail:

Sunday Masses: 10 am - interpreted; 7 pm celebrated in the Allen Memorial Chapel.

Orthodox Christian Fellowship

Contact: Mary Cowles

Orthodox Christian Ministry

OCF meetings are held on the third Sunday of every month, at 5 p.m., and alternate between RIT, the University of Rochester, and other campuses.

Office: (585) 475-2135

E-mail: mhccpm@rit.edu

Sports and Wellness

With recreational interests at an all time high, RIT offers something for everyone! Through payment of full-time tuition (12 credit hours), students are automatically eligible to use the recreation facilities. Students registered for a coop are also automatically provided with a recreation membership. Students taking 0-11 credit hours, or students who are considered to have full-time equivalency, must purchase a membership at the Student Life Center Main Office. The various recreational facilities available include:



Clark Gymnasium – Features a main gymnasium and a smaller auxiliary gymnasium used primarily for varsity practices and contests, a wrestling room, an athletic weight room, and a sports medicine center.



Gordon Field House and Activities Center – A 160,000 square foot, multi-purpose field house includes: 60,000 square foot multi-purpose arena; a 200 meter jogging track; 4 indoor tennis courts; Multi-level fitness center; an Aquatics center (8-lane competitive pool with moveable bulk-head diving area, recreational pool, and hot tub).



Hale-Andrews Student Life Center (SLC) – An 88,000 square foot complex that features 5 multi-purpose courts (basketball, volleyball, badminton); 2 dance studios/fitness rooms; 8 racquetball courts (four equipped for volleyball); Elevated 200 meter jogging track; Mini-gym (basketball, volleyball and multi-purpose court); Equipment cage (loan-out and towel service); Spinning room; Boxing/kick bag room; Locker rooms with saunas; Classrooms; CPR room; Overnight equipment rental office.



Outdoor Facilities – There are nine all-weather, lighted tennis courts next to U Lot. The athletic fields feature an all-weather track with generous seating and hosts soccer, lacrosse and track events. Other fields include baseball, softball, varsity practice fields, jogging trails, archery range, nature trails and artificial turf field.



Red Barn – Based in the Red Barn, the Interactive Adventures Program includes an array of adventure-based wellness activity classes, teambuilding programs, and a Climbing gym - a 32-foot top-roping wall and extensive bouldering areas.



Ritter Arena – Home to men's and women's ice hockey teams, as well as the Genesee Figure Skating Club. Public skating and "Learn to Skate" programs are also available.

Reservations

Reservations for all facilities are on a priority system. Reservations for groups of 10 or more people (with the exception of racquetball and indoor tennis) must be made two business days in advance. Reservations and requests for longer than two hours or multiple reservations will be handled on an individual basis and should be requested well in advance by calling the appropriate number and possibly completing a request form. Racquetball and indoor tennis courts may be reserved one day in advance by calling 475-2280.

Center Phone Numbers & Reservation Numbers:

Intercollegiate Athletics: 475-2614
Recreation: 475-2762
Aquatics Center: 475-2762
Field House: 475-2367
Fields: 475-7663
Red Barn: 475-2620

Intramurals: 475-6559
Wellness: 475-2620
Clark Gym: 475-7663
Ice Arena: 475-2223
Racquetball: 475-2280
Student Life Center: 475-2620

Tennis (indoor only): 475-2280

Web Site: <http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/ciar/>

Furniture

Sherman Furniture Rentals
<http://www.shermanfurniture.com/>



Craigslist
<http://rochester.craigslist.org/>



Sources for used furniture:
<http://www.rifc.org/webpages/used%20furniture.pdf>

Even if you decide to stay on campus, the majority of RIT apartments (except the University Commons apartments) are not furnished. It means that you will have to obtain furniture - tables, desks, chairs, beds, lamps, couches, dressers, etc. Because it is very unlikely that you will bring the furniture from home, you will have to buy it or rent it.

If you want to RENT:

Sherman Furniture Rentals
18 Industrial Park Circle, Rochester, NY 14624
Phone: (585) 247-1660 Fax: (585) 247-1704
<http://www.shermanfurniture.com/>; e-mail: mtaylor@shermanfurniture.net
Sherman Furniture Rentals offers special Student Sets. The amount of your fixed monthly payment will depend on the number of bedrooms.

If you want to buy NEW:

Your best option will be Wal-Mart, because it offers the lowest prices. At Wal-Mart you will find furniture as well as linens and other housekeeping stuff etc. If you are looking for something more sophisticated, there are many furniture stores in the area.

If you want to buy USED:

Craigslist: <http://rochester.craigslist.org/>. The most popular site where people sell and find used stuff. On this web site, look under "Furniture". If a seller is indicating a price or B/O (best offer) it means that you may negotiate the price. You may also find it useful visiting "Free" and "Garage Sale" sections.

Garage sales are when people are selling stuff they don't need anymore because they are moving or because they do not have space to store things. They would normally open their garage doors and have a sale in front of the house. The prices will be very low. They sell not only furniture but a lot of other stuff that you would find in a household. Very often you can find garage sales ads posted on signs on

light poles or in yards or advertised in the Penny saver or other papers.

Apartment Complexes- The majority of apartment complexes have a board in the rental office where residents post their ads. Quite often you will be able to find ads from people who are moving out and are selling their furniture.

RIT buildings- Campus Buildings have many wall postings, and the SAU building is particularly known for being a place where people put their ads (on the walls and special boards). Very often RIT students will post announcements about selling their furniture when they graduate. Although the majority of those ads will be posted at the end of academic year in May, you should be able to find some in August as well.

Salvation Army - 100 West Avenue, 585-527-9566

Volunteers of America – 214 Lake Avenue, (585) 647-1150. This location delivers for a flat fee of \$60 that includes all your purchases.

Books

Barnes and Noble @ RIT Bookstore

100 Park Point Drive

<http://rit.bncollege.com/>

Hours:

Mon-Sat: 9:00a.m.-9:00p.m.

Sun: 11:00a.m.-6:00p.m.

Call 585-475-2501

(hours subject to change)



Internet Resources for Buying Books Online

www.ebay.com

www.amazon.com

www.half.com

Wallace Library Website

<http://library.rit.edu/>

*Search "Catalogue" for textbooks on reserve, available for checking out, or in digital format

Where do you find books? How do you find out what books you will need? How can you save on books? It's important to know answers to these questions, because books may become a considerable part of your school expenses. Compared to many other countries, textbooks are very expensive in the U.S., and a price of a new book may go up to \$200! Be wise, and know your options in advance:

Find in advance what books you need. From the bookstore web site <http://rit.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?catalogId=10001&storeId=35554&langId=-1&level=1> you can find out what books your professors require for the courses you will study (complete "Buy Your Textbooks On-Line Today!" form). You won't be obliged to purchase selected books, but you will be able to see which ones you will need to study). Sometimes you might be able to find an **international edition** of a textbook in your home country. International editions are usually much cheaper than American editions, so you might want to consider it as an option to lower your expenses.

Barnes and Nobles @ RIT Bookstore. This book supermarket is located in Park Point, and serves as a campus bookstore for RIT students. There you will find every textbook or other supportive material (CDs, case studies, etc.) you need for your classes – basically, whatever RIT professors specified as required for the course. The bookstore offers new, as well as used, books. If you are looking to save money on books, you might prefer to buy used books (saves about 25%). However, their supply is always limited, and they are sold out very quickly. From the bookstore's web site, you can order textbooks (new as well as used) and other merchandise. Once done with a quarter, you may sell your textbook back to the bookstore (for about 50% of the price you bought it for, depending on its condition). If you need any study supplies (notebooks, pens, glue etc.), campus bookstore is the closest place to go, although you might find that they are cheaper in Wal-Mart and other supermarkets.

Buying books online- Although brand new books will cost about the same everywhere, you may find used books at very low prices on such sites as www.ebay.com, www.amazon.com, www.half.com. Sometimes when a new edition of a book is published, all the previous editions become much cheaper. Be sure to consult your professor before buying an older edition; sometimes the changes are very significant, and some professors are very particular about each student having the latest version of a book.

Wallace Library- Library resources might help you in a few ways: A book you need might be available for borrowing for as long as the entire quarter. However, there will only be one or two copies of a book available, so act quickly. Very often there will be a copy on a reserve, available from Circulation desk. You cannot take it home, but you can study with it on the library. Also, a book might be available in a digital format. For this option, visit <http://library.rit.edu/> and search the Catalogue (upper right corner). In the search result, you will be able to see the status of the book (available, taken, or reserve, e-book copy).

Bank Websites

Bank of America

www.bankofamerica.com



Chase

www.chase.com/



Citizens Bank

www.citizensbank.com/home/



HSBC

www.us.hsbc.com/1/2/3/personal?home=personal



Key Bank

www.key.com/index.html



M&T

www.mandtbank.com



Advantage Federal Credit Union

<http://www.advantagefcu.org/>



Campus ATM Location

* All banks are closed on
Sundays

Banking

Opening a bank account

It is recommended that you open a bank account and obtain a debit/credit card and a check book, because a lot of payments in the US are made electronically, and by card or check. It is also much safer to keep your money in a bank than at home. There are a few major banks in the area. When choosing a bank, ask for additional benefits (such as free account) that some of them provide for RIT students. In order to open an account, international students are usually required to provide various combinations of the following documents:

- home address and local address proof;
- 2 forms of ID (e.g. passport and RIT ID);
- proof of the international address (the address as noted in the passport or a piece of mail (acceptance letter, etc.) from RIT that was sent to the international address) or
- a letter on school letter head stating you are a student at the college and list your international address and US address, and signed by a college representative (Chase Bank only);
- Social security Number;
- I-20 or DS-2019(HSBC only);
- An acceptance letter from RIT (HSBC only).

Please note that most of the banks come to the campus during the Orientation week, and you can open an account without having to go to the office.

ATMs

The following banks have an ATM on campus: **Bank of America** (Gordon Field House(#24)), **HSBC**(Student Development Center (#55), Grace Watson Hall (#25), *Student Alumni Union (#4), Crossroads (#89)), **M&T Bank**(George Eastman Building (#1), Nathaniel Rochester Hall (#43)). For locations and information on transactions please visit <http://finweb.rit.edu/sfs/atm.html>.

Banks

Bank name	Local address	Local hours*	Customer service
Bank of America (Southtown Plaza)	3333 W Henrietta Rd Rochester, NY 14623	Mon - Thu: 9 a.m.-4p.m. Friday: 9 am-5p.m. Saturday: 9 am-2p.m.	585-475-1687 Voice 1-800-432-1000 Voice 1-800-288-4408 (TTY)
Chase	1575 East Henrietta Rd Henrietta, NY 14623	Mon-Fri: 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	585-427-7877 Voice 1-800-935-9935 Voice 1-800-242-7383 (Relay Service Line)
Citizen's Bank	589 Jefferson Rd. Rochester, NY 14623	Mon - Wed: 9 a.m. -4 p.m. Thursday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat: 9:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m.	585-424-1565 Voice 1-800-922-9999 (Voice/TTY)
HSBC	3740 W. Henrietta Rd Rochester, NY 14623	Mon - Wed: 9 a.m.-4p.m. Thursday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	585-359-4612 Voice 1-800-975-4722 Voice 1-800-898-5999 (TTY)
Key Bank (Southtown Plaza)	3333 W Henrietta Rd Rochester, NY 14623	Mon - Wed: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	585-272-5590 Voice 1-800-539-2968 Voice 1-800-762-4833 (TTY)
M & T Bank (Market Place Mall)	1400 Miracle Mile Dr. Rochester, NY 14626	Mon - Wed: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday: 9a.m.-1p.m.	585-427-2906 Voice 1-800-724-2440 Voice 1-800-724-1930

Cell Phones

Cell Phone Companies:

Virgin Mobile

www.virginmobileusa.com



AT&T

www.wireless.att.com



Verizon

www.verizonwireless.comb2c



Sprint

www.sprint.com



Cricket

www.mycricket.com



T-Mobile

www.t-mobile.com



Annual contracts:

Most cell phone companies offer special deals on cell phones (either free handsets or discounts on select models) when you agree to sign a one or two year contract (length of contract depends on the company). You must then select a "plan" according to the number of minutes, text messages, and other features you estimate you will use each month. For example, unlimited calling and texting for a set monthly fee, or 450 minutes for \$39.99 per month, plus 300 text messages for \$9.99 per month. Evaluate each plan carefully according to your needs, noting that companies will often charge very high rates per minute if you exceed your number of minutes per month (i.e. if your set plan includes 450 minutes for \$39.99 per month, but you accidentally exceed your 450 minutes by 50 extra minutes, those 50 extra minutes may cost you 25 cents/minute above and beyond your normal monthly fee. Once you select your plan, you must make monthly payments, either by check or automatic deduction from your credit card or bank account. Many companies will require you to have a Social Security Number and credit card approval in order to sign up for the contract, although AT&T, for example, offers exceptions for RIT international students. Be sure to discuss these details, including potential activation fees or early termination fees, prior to signing a contract.

No annual contracts:

1) Pay-as-you-Go: This option is often convenient for students who make very limited calls. Select a pre-packaged phone kit. The kit will include a very basic phone, and then you decide how much money to add to your account. For example, when you purchase the phone (at Wal-Mart, Best Buy, even at gas stations!), you can add \$50 worth of calling time to your account. Once you use all the money, you must "refill" the phone with more money using prepaid cards, online, or by phone in order to make more calls. If you don't add money, you can't make calls. Inquire about refill expirations! A \$10 refill card may require you to use the full \$10 within a set time period, such as 2 weeks. Different companies will charge different prices for the minutes that you use. For example, under one plan \$50 may buy you 500 minutes at 10 cents per minute, but on another plan, that same \$50 may only buy you 200 minutes at 25 cents per minute. Other plans may give you the option to pay \$1 per day on the days that you make calls, and then those calls cost less per minute.

2) Prepaid monthly option: "Pick your Plan" by selecting the number of minutes and features you want...for example, \$30 for 200 minutes, or \$50 for 400 minutes. Your monthly payments will be automatically deducted from your credit card or bank account. Once your monthly minutes run out, you can no longer make calls until the next month when your minute-plan starts again. This feature protects you from unexpected charges at the end of the month. Phones range from very inexpensive, simple models, to more expensive, very sophisticated models.

Virgin Mobile

3995 W. Henrietta Rd.

585-359-3314

www.virginmobileusa.com

Cricket

1100 Jefferson Road Unit #7

585-427-0543

<http://www.mycricket.com/>

AT&T

Marketplace Mall

585-427-2650

www.wireless.att.com

Sprint

621 Jefferson Rd.

585-272-1400

www.sprint.com

Verizon

951 Jefferson Rd.

585-697-5900

www.verizonwireless.comb2c

T-Mobile

Marketplace Mall

585-292-0680

www.t-mobile.com

In all cases, when evaluating various plans, consider the following:

1. Unlimited mobile-to-mobile calls within the same company are often free of charge.
2. Some companies offer free long distance/no roaming fees across the national service/coverage area.
3. You can make international calls from your cell phone. Prices vary from company to company. Text messaging is also available for international communication.
4. Most plans include Unlimited Night and Weekend Minutes
5. Inquire if unused minutes will roll over to the next month if you don't use all of them!



American Holidays

Holiday Calendar 2011-2012

New Year's Day
January 1st, 2012

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 15th, 2012

Valentine's Day
February 14th, 2012

Presidents Day
February 19th, 2012

Easter Sunday
date varies – generally late
April 2012.

Memorial Day
May 31st, 2012

Labor Day
September 5th, 2011
September 3rd, 2012

The federal holidays: *New Years Day, *Martin Luther King Day, *Presidents Day, *Memorial Day, *Independence Day, *Labor Day, *Columbus Day, *Veterans Day, *Thanksgiving, *Christmas Day.

The "Big 6" holidays (most private sector businesses close): *New Years Day, *Memorial Day, *Independence Day, *Labor Day, *Thanksgiving, *Christmas Day.

Please refer to the Institute Calendar on p. 43 to see if RIT classes are in session on a particular holiday!

New Year's Day is celebrated on January 1. In the US it is a public holiday, often celebrated with fireworks at the stroke of midnight as a new year starts. It is also customary to make New Year's resolutions, which individuals hope to fulfill in the coming year. New Year's Day will always be memorable for those who celebrate it in New York City. In New York City, the 11,875-pound (5,386-kg), 12-foot-diameter (3.7-m) Times Square Ball located high above Times Square is lowered starting at 11:59:00 p.m., or the last minute of the year, and reaches the bottom of its tower at the stroke of midnight with fireworks. It is sometimes referred to as "the big apple" like the city itself; the custom derives from the time signal that used to be given at noon in harbors.

Valentine's Day or Saint Valentine's Day is a holiday celebrated on February 14. It is the traditional day on which lovers express their love for each other by sending Valentine's cards, presenting flowers, or offering confectionery. The day is most closely associated with the mutual exchange of love notes in the form of "valentines". Modern Valentine symbols include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid.

However, many people use this holiday as an opportunity to express their love and gratitude to their family and friends by sending Valentine cards and giving small presents.

Easter is the most important religious feast in the Christian liturgical year. Christians believe that Jesus was resurrected from the dead three days after his crucifixion. Easter is a moveable feast, and falls at some point between late March and late April each year. One of the major traditions associated with Easter is Easter eggs decoration on Saturday evening and "hunting" for them Sunday morning. Parents tell their children that eggs and other treats have been delivered and hidden by the Easter Bunny in an Easter basket which children find waiting for them when they wake up. Many families in America will attend Sunday Mass or services in the morning and then participate in a feast or party in the afternoon.

Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the last Monday of May. It commemorates U.S. men and women who died while serving their country in the military. Many observe this holiday by visiting cemeteries and memorials. A national moment of remembrance takes place at 3 p.m. Eastern Time. Another tradition is to fly the flag of the United States at half-staff from dawn until noon local time. Many Americans also use Memorial Day to honor other family members who have died. In addition to remembrance, Memorial Day is also used as a time for picnics, barbecues, family gatherings, and sporting events. Traditionally, this holiday is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic beginning of summer.

Labor Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the first Monday in September. The holiday originated in 1882 as the Central Labor Union of New York City sought to create "a day off for the working citizens." Today, Labor Day is often regarded as a day of rest and parades. Forms of celebration include picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays, water sports, and public art events. Traditionally, Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of summer.

American Holidays

Holiday Calendar 2011-2012

Independence Day
July 4th

Columbus Day
October 12th

Halloween
October 31st



Veterans Day
4th Thursday in November

Thanksgiving
November 25th



Christmas Day
December 25th



In the United States, **Independence Day**, commonly known as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, declaring independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain. Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, picnics, concerts, baseball games, political speeches and ceremonies, and various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. Similar to other summer-themed events, Independence Day celebrations often take place outdoors. Independence Day is a federal holiday, so all non-essential federal institutions (like the postal service and federal courts) are closed on that day. Families often celebrate Independence Day by hosting or attending a picnic or barbecue and gather with relatives. Decorations (e.g., streamers, balloons, and clothing) are generally colored red, white, and blue, the colors of the American flag. Parades often are in the morning, while fireworks displays occur in the evening at such places as parks, fairgrounds, or town squares.

Halloween is a holiday celebrated on October 31. It has roots in the Christian holy day of All Saints. The day is often associated with the colors orange and black, and is strongly associated with symbols such as the jack-o'-lantern (a carved pumpkin). Halloween activities include trick-or-treating, ghost tours, bonfires, costume parties, visiting haunted attractions, reading scary stories, and watching horror movies. Costuming is one of the most popular attributes of Halloween, as often for adults as for children. Halloween costumes are often designed to imitate supernatural and scary beings. Costumes are traditionally those of monsters such as vampires, ghosts, skeletons, witches, and devils.

Thanksgiving Day is a harvest festival. Traditionally, it is a time to give thanks for the harvest and express gratitude in general. Thanksgiving takes place on the fourth Thursday in November. On that date in 1621, the European settlers in Plymouth, Massachusetts, gave their thanks to God for letting them survive their first year in the New World. They celebrated by having a large feast or dinner. The Native Americans who had helped them were invited to that feast. Nowadays, Thanksgiving is a family holiday. On that occasion, members of the same family who live far apart get together for a big dinner. This traditional dinner reproduces the food the Plymouth colonists served in 1621: turkey, sweet potatoes or yams, squash, corn, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie.

Christmas, also referred to as **Christmas Day**, is an annual holiday celebrated on December 25 to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ. Modern customs of the holiday include gift-giving, Church celebrations, and the display of various decorations—including the Christmas tree, lights, mistletoe, and nativity scenes. Santa Claus is a popular mythological figure often associated with bringing gifts at Christmas for children. Most households circulate wrapped gifts in the two weeks before Christmas Day. The gifts are most commonly opened on the morning of Christmas Day. Christmas is celebrated throughout the Christian population, but is also celebrated by many non-Christians as a secular, cultural festival. The Christmas tree is the most popular symbol of this holiday.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_holidays_by_country#United_States_of_America

City of Rochester

Events not to miss and places to visit!

George Eastman House
www.eastmanhouse.org/

Public Market
<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/publicmarket/>

Strong Museum of Play
www.strongmuseum.org/



Rochester City Parks
www.cityofrochester.gov/parks/

Eastman Theater
www.esm.rochester.edu/concerts/eastman_theatre.php

Geva Theatre
<http://www.gevatheatre.org/>



Ontario Beach Park/Charlotte Beach
<http://www.monroecounty.gov/parks-ontariobeach.php>

www.aboutrochester.com

1. George Eastman House. An international museum of photography and film. It is an independent nonprofit museum and an educational institution that tells the story of photography and motion pictures. Eastman House is also one of the oldest film archives in the United States and is now considered to be among the top cinematic collections worldwide. The motion picture archives hold more than 25,000 film titles produced between 1894 and the present.
<http://www.eastmanhouse.org/>

2. Public Market. Rochester's oldest and most charming outdoor marketplace. Rochester's 103 year old Public Market, located in the heart of Rochester. Bargains abound Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Vendors offer their fresh foods (meats, fish, veggies, and fruits), ethnic delicacies and specialty items. Special events throughout the year such as Sundays "Greatest Garage Sales Ever", and "Flower City Days" add to the flavor and excitement.

3. Strong Museum of Play. One of the world's best children's museums.
<http://www.strongmuseum.org/>

4. Parks. Rochester has more than 3,500 acres of nationally recognized parks where you can explore, play, rest or entertain. Rochester's parks offer active and passive forms of recreation, from organized sports facilities and playgrounds, to scenic overlooks and trails for solitary walks and jogs. Park amenities include picnic areas, lodges, playgrounds, ball fields and tennis courts. Some include sandy beaches, ice-skating rinks and pools.
<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/parks/>

5. Eastman Theater. Named for Kodak founder and philanthropist George Eastman, this 3,094-seat theater is the cornerstone of Rochester's cultural arts. The Eastman Theatre is, among many other things, the home of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra; the primary concert hall of the Eastman School of Music; and the flagship venue of Xerox Rochester International Jazz Festival. It has hosted some of the world's finest performers, musicians and conductors, including Igor Stravinsky, Leonard Slatkin and Wynton Marsalis.
http://www.esm.rochester.edu/concerts/eastman_theatre.php

6. Geva Theatre. It is Rochester, New York's home for Broadway theatre; improve comedy theatre, children's theatre, theatre education and much more. It is Rochester's leading professional theatre and the most attended regional theatre in New York State.
<http://www.gevatheatre.org/>

7. Ontario Beach Park/Charlotte Beach. Bordered on Lake Ontario, the Park is immediately adjacent to the Port of Rochester and a local recreation and dining business area to create an extended recreational venue with many places to eat and drink within walking distance from the park. These include Abbott's Frozen Custard, Cheeburger Cheeburger, LDR Char Pit, Mr. Dominic's, and Nola's BBQ as well as many others. The beach area is also referred to as Charlotte Beach by many locals.

City of Rochester

Events not to miss and places to visit!

The Little Theatre
<https://www.thelittle.org/>

Lilac Festival
www.lilacfestival.com/



Rochester Jazz Fest
www.rochesterjazz.com/

Park Avenue Summer Arts
Festival
www.park-avenue.org

Rochester International Short
Film Festival
www.rochesterfilmfest.org/

First Friday
www.firstfridayrochester.org

Additional Resources:

Rochester Events and Festival
2011
[http://visitrochester.com/event
s/](http://visitrochester.com/event/s/)

Official Tourism Site of
Rochester, NY
www.visitrochester.com

City of Rochester
www.cityofrochester.gov

Seneca Park Zoo
www.senecaparkzoo.org/

8. The Little Theatre began in Rochester in 1928 as a link in a proposed chain of small theatres designed to provide an "intimate" alternative to the large commercial movie houses of the day. Voted "Best Movie Theatre" and "Best Place for a First Date" by the readers of City Newspaper for three years in a row, it offers five theaters, monthly art exhibits, a cafe serving meals, salads, desserts, beer & wine and live music. The Little shows the best in independent, foreign and feature films. www.thelittle.org

9. Lilac Festival. The Lilac Festival is an annual event held in May that draws up to 500,000 people to Rochester's Highland Park to view more than 200 varieties of lilacs and other flowers, trees and shrubs. The Lilac Festival dates back to back to 1898 and is firmly rooted in Rochester's heritage as the "Flour-Flower City." Today, the annual Lilac Festival is one of the region's most anticipated events and draws visitors from around the world. Highlights of the festival, which serves as the unofficial start of the Rochester area's summer festival season, also include the Lilac Parade and the Lilac Queen, a set of 5- and 10-kilometer runs and a wide variety of vendors and live performances. <http://www.lilacfestival.com/>

10. Xerox Greater Rochester International Jazz Festival. The festival last for 9-10 days, and features more than 800 artists on more than 200 stages. In 2011 more than 125,000 people attended this event. There are free venues, as well as those requiring purchasing a ticket or a club pass. www.rochesterjazz.com/

11. Park Avenue Summer Arts Festival. One of Rochester's oldest and most unique neighborhoods this is an annual festival of arts, crafts and music. This festival annually attracts over 250,000 people. Come to enjoy arts and crafts, foods and drinks, and live music. <http://www.park-avenue.org/index.html>

12. Rochester International Short Film Festival is the world's oldest continuously-held short film festival, has been presented each year since 1959 by Movies on a Shoestring, Inc. Each festival includes a wide variety of narrative films, documentaries, and animations submitted by independent filmmakers from all parts of the world. www.rochesterfilmfest.org/

13. First Friday. This is a monthly citywide gallery night that encourages collaboration and exchange between non-profit, university, and commercial art venues in Rochester, NY. This initiative showcases area artists and arts institutions by designating the first Friday evening of every month, from 6-9pm as a community night for experiencing art. A complete list of the galleries that participate in this event can be found at: <http://www.firstfridayrochester.org>. Pamphlets detailing bus and shuttle routes to these venues can usually be found in Building 7 on the RIT campus.

14. Bristol Mountain. Go skiing! Bristol Mountain is located in the Western Finger Lakes of Upstate New York, right in the award winning wine country region. Bristol boasts a summit elevation of 2200' and a base elevation of 1000'. <http://www.bristolmountain.com/>

Ethnic Restaurants and Stores

Rochester Restaurant and Grocery Store Guides:

Rochester Restaurants
<http://rocwiki.org/Restaurants>

Grocery Stores
<http://rocwiki.org/Grocery%20Stores>

Metromix Rochester Restaurants
<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/section?Category=dining>

www.urbanspoon.com



Information is based on ISS Peer Advisor Leaders' recommendations and the following websites:

- <http://rocwiki.org/Restaurants> (Asian, Indian, European, Caribbean, Halal...)
- <http://rocwiki.org/Grocery%20Stores>
- Dining guide from local newspaper "Democrat and Chronicle"

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/section?Category=dining>

Restaurants:

Thali of India

3259 Winton Rd S , (585) 427-8030

Tandoor of India

376 Jefferson Rd (585) 427-7080

Taste of India

3047 W Henrietta Rd (585) 475-1111

Chipotle

640 Jefferson Road, (585) 424-1444

El Sabor de La Isla (Dominican)

1019 Norton St (585) 266-6834

Island Fresh Cuisine

382 Jefferson Rd (585) 424-2150

Tokyo & Shanghai Chinese Restaurant

2930 West Henrietta Rd (585) 424-4166

Abyssinia (Ethiopian)

80 University Avenue, (585) 262 3910

Stores:

Liz Oriental store (Asian food market)

900 Jefferson Road, (585) 272 7020

Desi Bazaar (+Halal)

1713 Crittenden Road, (585) 292 1189

India Market

3259 Winton Rd S, (585) 427-8667

Changs Oriental Food Store

1867 Mount Hope Ave, (585) 426-7660

Olga (Ukrainian and Russian)

303 East Ridge Road, 585 342 2151

Mysore Woodlands South Indian

1900 Clinton Ave S, (585) 271-2100

King and I (Thai)

1455 East Henrietta Road (585) 427 8090

China Buffet

376 Jefferson Road, (585) 427 0240

Seoul Garden (Korean)

2805 West Henrietta Road, (585) 424 2220

Alexandrias Mediterranean Cuisine

120 East Avenue, (585) 232-6180

Wok With You (Asian)

300 Park Point Drive, Suite 110
(585) 427-8383

Sinbad's Mediterranean Cuisine

719 Park Ave., (585) 473-5655
382 Jefferson Rd (585) 424-2150

Chopsticks

125 White Spruce Boulevard, (585) 427-8878

Namaste (Indian groceries)

3047 W Henrietta Road, (585) 424 2980

Asia Food Market Inc

1885 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd, (585) 292-9888

African Caribbean Market

1415 Clinton Ave N, (585) 266-8610

Wegmans Grocery Store

Great selection of international products

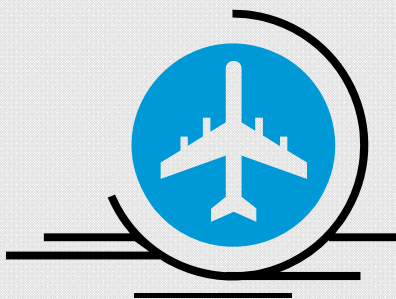
Asia Market (Asian)

3047 W Henrietta Rd, (585) 424-3922

Shanghai (Chinese-Dim Sum)

2920 W Henrietta Rd, (585) 424-4000

Travelling



Your I-20 or DS-2019 must have a travel signature less than a year old. For travel signature-related questions please contact the ISS Office

Citizenship and Immigration
Canada

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/index.asp>

Obtaining Canadian Visas
http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/howdoi_getcanadavisa.php

Automatic Revalidation
http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/immigrationandemployment_travel_reenter.php

or J-1 visa in order to re-enter the U.S.



WITHIN the U.S.:



- Whenever you leave Rochester, whether by train, bus, plane, or car, you must travel with your original immigration documents – valid passport, visa, I-94 card, and I-20 or DS-2019. It is recommended you carry your original documents if you go to pick up friends or family at the train/bus station or at the airport. It is recommended you carry a copy of your documents at all times.

OUTSIDE North America:

- Passport valid at least 6 months into the future (required)
- Valid US visa; I-94 card; original I-20 (or DS-2019) endorsed (signed) by ISS within the current academic year (required)
- Proof of financial support (recommended)
- Transcript or enrollment verification letter (recommended and available from Registrar's Office)



To CANADA:



- Citizens of certain countries require a Canadian visa in order to enter Canada. You may apply for this visa in Buffalo, NY. More information can be found at:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/index.asp> or

http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/howdoi_getcanadavisa.php

- Normally a valid F-1 or J-1 visa is required to re-enter the U.S., however special rules apply for travel to Canada and Mexico. "Automatic Revalidation" allows re-entry to the U.S. with an expired F-1 or J-1 visa; however students must **not attempt to renew their visa while in Canada. Automatic Revalidation does not apply to students from Iran, Sudan, Syria, or Cuba, so students from these countries must have a valid F-1**

or J-1 visa in order to re-enter the U.S.

For more information, please review the following website:

http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/iss/immigrationandemployment_travel_reenter.php

NOTES:

NOTES:

Dear International Student:

Welcome to the RIT campus for the beginning of the new academic year. Enclosed is important information about RIT's 2011-12 Student Insurance Plans.

RIT requires all international students to have adequate medical insurance. This requirement enables access to health care when medical emergencies occur that require services provided outside of RIT's Student Health Center. Please note the following:

Automatic Enrollment

RIT will automatically enroll and bill all A, B, E, F, G, I, J, K, O, Q, R or V visa international students in the RIT Accident & Sickness medical insurance plan (Basic Plan). Your benefits under this plan include coverage for medical evacuation and repatriation.

If you are automatically enrolled you will notice a \$430 Student Insurance charge on your RIT bill. This is a semi-annual charge for Fall/Winter Quarter that will be triggered by your active enrollment status. If you remain enrolled for Spring Quarter, you will see another semi-annual billing of this amount in your Spring quarter bill. Please note that your coverage period corresponds to the semi-annual period that you are billed by RIT for the insurance premium. If you remain enrolled for Spring quarter, your coverage will extend through August 15, 2012.

All other RIT international students may voluntarily enroll in RIT's Basic Plan and optional coverages. Those wishing to voluntarily enroll can enroll on-line at www.universityhealthplans.com or mail the enrollment form on the last page of the Student Accident & Sickness Plan brochure to obtain coverage.

Process to Waive Automatic Enrollment in RIT's Basic Plan:

RIT has established a special waiver process for international students on A, B, E, F, G, I, J, K, O, Q, R or V visas who are covered under other medical insurance and wish to waive enrollment in RIT's Basic Plan. It requires verification of the adequacy of this other medical insurance coverage. More information may be obtained at International Student Services or by going to their website at www.rit.edu/internationalservices. International Student Services will administer the international student waiver process.

Other Insurance Options

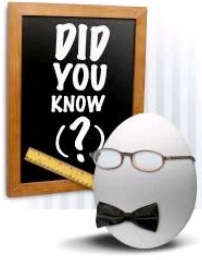
- You may choose to add a catastrophic layer of insurance to the standard RIT Student Accident & Sickness plan. Refer to the Student Accident & Sickness brochure for details on the "Optional Enhanced Supplemental Benefit."
- You may voluntarily enroll in RIT's **Student Dental Insurance plan** for dental coverage, as well as insure your personal belongings under RIT's **Student Personal Property Insurance plan**. These plans are outlined in the enclosed brochures. Note: The dental plan has an enrollment deadline of September 30, 2010 for fall quarter.

Questions about these plans can be directed to the phone numbers in each of the brochures.

Good health to you as you begin your studies this fall.

Jeffrey W. Cox
Director
International Student Services

Melinda J. Ward
Director
Risk Management & Insurance



RIT Cool Facts

- The “Quarter Mile” is RIT’s most popular place to find out about upcoming events. It is the path connecting Residence Halls to the Academic side of campus. It is usually filled with flyers, brochures, and shout-outs for all types of events. Take a minute and check it out!
- If you stand outside the SAU and encounter a large metal statue, don’t be afraid, it is RIT’s Sentinel Statue. It was built for RIT in 2003 and it is the largest sculpture in any college campus in the country, each piece representing a different RIT college.
- When it gets really cold in the winter, be aware of RIT’s underground tunnels that connect many buildings around campus like the Kate Gleason College of Engineering with the Wallace Library or the underground world that exists below Residence Halls connecting two convenience stores with laundry facilities and else. It is a great alternative to stay warm!
- Don’t miss out on our own on-campus Ben & Jerry’s ice cream shop located in the SAU that accepts both Debit and Tiger Bucks. Enjoy!
- RIT’s CAB Office (College Activities Board) hosts all sorts of interesting events for students from Movie nights to Ski Trips...keep posted!
- The Red Barn is a facility located at the west end of campus; it houses Interactive Adventure programs and a climbing wall. The entrance is through Riverknoll apartments off Kimball Drive. Up for some indoor sports?
- RIT offers a wide variety of Wellness Classes that can be added to your quarterly agenda for a very comfortable price. Classes from Salsa Dance to Capoeira to Horseback Riding and even personal trainers are an option for students. Don’t be afraid to learn something new and have fun at the same time!
- RIT’s Reporter Magazine is a very quirky publication prepared for and by students to update you on current global and local events and enhance RIT knowledge. Pick one up in almost every Campus corner!
- Don’t disregard any e-mail messages; they are a great source for career opportunities, volunteer work and exciting activities within RIT and out. Read!
- Keep track of everything that is going on at RIT at events.rit.edu!



Institute Calendar

FALL QUARTER (2011)

September 5	Day, evening, and online classes begin
September 10	Saturday classes begin
September 11	Last day to add/drop courses
September 12	First day to withdraw on-line via SIS; receive a "W" grade
October 28	Last day to withdraw on-line with a "W" grade
November 11	Last day and evening classes
Nov. 14-19	Final exams
November 20	Final grades due by 11:00 pm
November 20-27	Fall/Winter break
November 24-25	Thanksgiving- Institute closed

SPRING QUARTER (2013)

March 12, 2012	Day, evening, and online classes begin
March 17	Saturday classes begin
March 18	Last day to add/drop courses
March 19	First day to withdraw on-line via SIS; receive a "W" grade
May 4	Last day to withdraw on-line with a "W" grade
May 18	Last day and evening classes
May 19	Last Saturday classes
May 21-25	Final exams
May 25	Academic Convocation and Commencement ceremonies (Friday)
May 26	Commencement ceremonies (Saturday)
May 27 - June 3	Spring/Summer break
May 28	Memorial Day—Institute closed

WINTER QUARTER (2012)

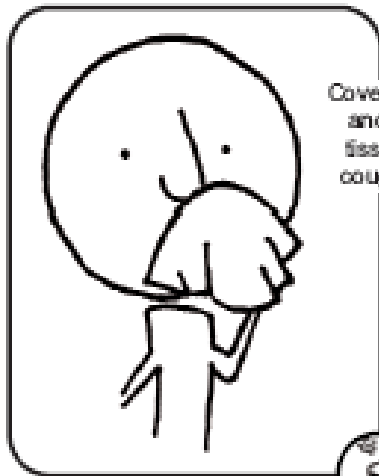
November 28	Day, evening, and online classes begin
December 3	Saturday classes begin
December 4	Last day to add/drop courses
December 5	First day to withdraw on-line via SIS; receive a "W" grade
December 16	Last day, evening and online classes before holiday break
December 17	Last Saturday classes before holiday break
Dec. 18 - Jan. 8, 2012	Holiday break
Dec. 25 - Jan. 2, 2012	Institute closed
January 9	Day and evening classes resume
January 14	Saturday classes resume
February 10	Last date to withdraw on-line with a "W" grade
February 24	Last day and evening classes
February 25	Last Saturday and online classes
Feb. 27-Mar 3	Final exams
Mar 4 - Mar. 11	Winter/Spring break

SUMMER QUARTER (2014)

June 4, 2012	Day, evening, and online classes begin
June 9	Saturday classes begin
June 10	Last day to add/drop courses
June 11	First day to withdraw on-line via SIS; receive a "W" grade
July 4	Independence Day—Institute closed
July 27	Last date to withdraw on-line with a "W" grade
August 10	Last day and evening classes
August 11	Last Saturday and online classes
August 13-18	Final exams

Stop the spread of germs that make you and others sick!

Cover your Cough



Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or

cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.



Put your used tissue in the waste basket.



You may be asked to put on a surgical mask to protect others.



Clean your Hands

after coughing or sneezing.



Wash hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds or

clean with alcohol-based hand cleaner.



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www.health.maryland.gov



American
Public
Health
Association

APIC
Association for
Infection Control
and Prevention