Dear Parents,

It’s amazing how quickly summer is flying by! In one month from today, our incoming class of Tigers will be in the middle of Orientation and campus will be buzzing again. Below are tips for parents of incoming and returning students as you prepare your Tigers for their return to RIT.
News and Deadlines

Parents of Incoming Students
Welcome! I know many new parents are signing up for this newsletter. Please be sure to check out our online family orientation and register for Family Orientation. Those websites should answer many of your questions about the Orientation schedule and how to prepare this summer, but feel free to email me at parents@rit.edu if you have any further questions. Also, watch your email in early August for additional information from my office.

Parents of Returning Students
Just because your student is returning, it doesn’t mean there won’t be new RIT experiences this year! Here are a few tips and things to remind your student about as they prepare to return to RIT:

- **Housing:** If your student is returning to RIT housing, be sure they know how big their space is and if their apartment is furnished or not. This information, including room dimensions, can be found on the Housing Operations website.
- **Dining:** Will their dining plan work with their new apartment location and class schedule? Remember, students only have through the first week of classes to change their dining plans. Check out the Upperclassmen plans and Commuter plans.
- **Fall Career Fair:** Many upperclassmen students will be searching for a co-op; make sure they pack their professional clothing for the Fall Career Fair, which will be held on October 4. The Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education has many other services for students, including career counseling, job search prep, and co-op support.
- **Academic Support Center:** It’s not unusual for academic challenges to pop up later in a student’s career. The Academic Support Center (ASC) is a great place for students to start when they need support. Services include math and physics support, study strategies courses, and one-on-one academic coaching.
- **Wellness Courses:** RIT students are required to take two wellness courses before they graduate. Students have many wellness course options, including seminars on topics such as finances and stress management, dance, fitness, outdoor education, and more. These courses are a great
opportunity to learn about many aspects of wellness while having some fun!

**Student Insurance Options**

- **Tuition Refund Insurance**: This elective insurance plan provides coverage for tuition and room and board charges in the event of an unexpected withdrawal from classes due to an illness or accident. Under this plan, you may receive a 70% refund of your semester payment even after the University’s own refund policy has expired. Applications must be complete by the first day of Fall Semester classes (August 28, 2017).

- **Student Health Insurance**: RIT expects all students to have health insurance. If your student will use a family plan, please contact the company to determine what coverage your student has in Rochester (many companies have limited out-of-network coverage). RIT offers a robust student health insurance plan with an expansive provider network across the U.S. and out-of-network benefits.

- **Student Dental Plan**: The RIT Student Dental plan provides cost-effective dental care provided by network dentists at treatment locations in close proximity to RIT’s campus.

- **Personal Property Insurance**: RIT offers a broad personal property insurance plan—which covers losses that homeowner’s insurance typically does not—that is very reasonably priced with low deductible options.

**Volunteer at Family Orientation**

We're looking for local parents to help us welcome the incoming class of Tiger Families. Learn more and sign up on our [2017 Parent Volunteer Form](#). The deadline to sign up is August 4.

**Save the Date! Brick City Weekend**

Brick City Homecoming and Family Weekend is on October 13-15, 2017. Along with annual favorite events (Men’s and Women’s Hockey, SG Horton Distinguished Speaker, and the Brick City 5k), the Parent & Family Programs office is excited to again offer the Taste of Rochester—a local food and beverage tasting event, Sunday Brunch, and No Voice Zone—an opportunity for you to learn ASL (American Sign Language). Continue to watch the newsletter for more information on the schedule and registration, and save the date!
The RIT Education Abroad and International Fellowships office provides guidance and support to students interested in enhancing their program of study at RIT with an international experience. With over 700 study abroad programs in over 60 different countries, students have the opportunity to pursue their personal, academic and professional goals in a global environment. The variety of program offerings provides students with flexibility in terms of coursework, length, timing, and level of cultural immersion.

One popular option is to study at one of RIT’s five global campuses located in Dubai, Kosovo, China, and two in Croatia. At the global campuses, students can directly enroll for a semester or summer and continue to take RIT classes in a variety of disciplines. Others may choose a faculty-led program which is a program designed, developed, and led by RIT faculty members. These provide opportunities for short-term study abroad experiences that are often major specific. Students studying on RIT programs will gain a new perspective on their major, build self-confidence, and get a hands-on learning experience that will help them develop skills to use in their future career.

Quick Facts:

- A record number of RIT students studied abroad last year.
• RIT students received more than $200,000 in scholarship funding for international study and research last year.
• Many study abroad programs are comparable to RIT tuition, and in most cases students can use their financial aid.
• Students are required to work with their academic advisor(s) prior to going abroad to get overseas courses approved so they can stay on track to graduation.

Learn more about study abroad program opportunities by visiting the RIT Global website. Students can make an appointment to meet with a study abroad advisor by contacting the Education Abroad office at 585-475-4466 or global@rit.edu.

Students interested in taking courses abroad in their major can utilize the study abroad college specific guides found on our website.

For parent specific information about study abroad at RIT, check out the parent's guide.

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Information and Updates

**Family and Emergency Contact Information**
Please remind your student (incoming or returning) to update family and emergency contact information in SIS (Student Information System) by going to www.rit.edu/studentcontact. This official record must be updated by your student, and does not impact your email preferences for this newsletter. To change your email address for the Parent Newsletter, please do so on the Parent & Family Programs website.

**Student Employment**
Student employment is one way students can enhance their educational experience. At RIT, students must research, apply, and interview for positions they are interested in. An updated resume is often needed as students apply. Students must bring original identification documents with them to campus to fill out an I-9 once a job offer has been made. For a list of acceptable documents, as well as job postings, students should visit the Student Employment website.
Kitchen Away from Home Cookbook
Help RIT students learn cooking skills by contributing to our *Kitchen Away from Home* Cookbook. We are seeking recipes and kitchen tips that will help students learn their way around the kitchen. We are gathering recipes in six different categories:

- **Dorm Room Delights**: Recipes that can be made with few ingredients, either in dorm rooms or using a microwave in the kitchen.
- **Dinners for Beginners**: Full dinner recipes that are easy to make—a challenging ingredient here or there to help students learn their way around a kitchen.
- **Make Lunch the Night Before**: Sandwiches and other lunch recipes that can stay in the fridge overnight and in the backpack until morning classes are over. Encourage money-saving ingredients and creative ideas.
- **“I don’t have class until 2 p.m.”**: Delicious breakfast ideas for students with a little extra time in the morning.
- **The Freshman 15-**: Scrumptious snacks and desserts for students who aren’t too worried about gaining those famous 15 pounds during their college experience.
- **Parents to Parents**: Your place to include the recipes that you love but that might be a little bit more challenging to create. These recipes are for home cooks who have a little bit more skill—or brave student chefs!

To submit a recipe or kitchen tip, please send an email to parents@rit.edu with the subject line “Kitchen Away from Home.” Please include which category your recipe fits into, your name, and where you’re from. *Kitchen Away from Home* Cookbooks will be available for you to purchase for your student this fall.

Parent Poll
Each month, we ask parents to respond to our Parent Poll and provide feedback on a topic related to RIT, your student, and you. In June, we asked on what topic you contacted RIT this spring. Most of you (62%) said you didn’t not contact RIT; 16% contacted RIT with questions about finances. Please take a moment to answer our July question.

Parent Tip
*Developing Healthy Roommate Relationships*

The college roommate relationship is an important one. For many incoming students, this will be the first time sharing a close, personal space with another person. Returning students may have to negotiate with a new person with different habits. Encourage your student to use the summer to get to know their roommate(s) and begin conversations about expectations. As your student
connects with roommate(s), suggest they discuss:

- Who will bring what? Try not to duplicate items in order to make the most of their space.
- How do students feel about guests? Overnight guests?
- What are the expectations for room cleanliness?
- What are students' study habits? Will students use the room for studying?
- What are students' sleeping habits? What time do students go to sleep/wake up?

Student Resident Advisors (RAs), who work closely with students in residence halls and apartments, suggest that roommates complete the Roommate Agreement. This online form will allow students to talk through potential areas of disagreement. This will make it easier to resolve any disagreements throughout the year. Remind your student to be flexible with their roommate and revisit and revise the agreement occasionally, as schedules and preferences may change. If your student and their roommate ever have a disagreement that they are struggling to resolve, suggest they reach out to an RA. RAs are trained to help roommates work through disagreements, big and small. Early communication and knowing where to go for help when conflicts occur will make your student's roommate experience a success.

**Featured Photo**
In case you don’t follow the [Parent and Family Programs Facebook page](https://example.com), here’s what you missed this week: Summer is definitely quieter without your students, but there is still activity! This tour of prospective students and families picked a beautiful July afternoon to visit RIT.
Sincerely,

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