Survival Tips

Starting Classes
- It’s possible to change your first semester schedule, but you must talk to your academic advisor before making any changes. Some classes are necessary to graduate and could delay your graduation if you don’t take them on time. To access your schedule and course offerings, log in to the Student Information System (SIS) at sis.rit.edu. You can also view what Honors courses are being offered each semester at honors.rit.edu/honorscourses.
- Get your textbooks early to save on used prices. Log into the Student Information System (sis.rit.edu) or look at Barnes & Noble @ RIT to copy the ISBNs if you want to purchase books outside of RIT, which is a good money-saving strategy (but might take extra time). Booksfortigers.com, bookmaid.com, amazon.com, and Rochester Textbooks are four great places to start looking. It will also save money to email your professor and ask if the newest edition is mandatory.
- Get to know your advisor and Honors Advocate(s) early on. Meet and speak with your advisors, department head, professors, and Honors Advocate(s). If you are truly interested in your major, show it by getting involved in your department early. Look for professional clubs as well.
- Learn about your professors ahead of time. The best way to get to know a professor is to meet with them or send them a personal email, but you can also ask your Honors Mentors or other upperclassmen.
- Be aware of seminars offered in your college; they can be very informative and entertaining. They are also a way to meet new contacts in your field.

Dorm Life
- Always lock your door and bring your ID and keys with you when you leave. You do NOT want to be stuck in a towel coming back from the shower because your roommate locked the door. If you do get locked out, talk to your RA or go to the area office for your building to get a loaner key. You need a form of ID for this. You can also call Public Safety to unlock your door.
- Keep your door open! Try to get to know the people on your floor, wherever you live, even if you just recognize and wave to them on the Quarter Mile. Make your floor a fun and friendly place to be.
- Report if something is broken. If something in your room or the dorms is broken you can submit a maintenance request form to the Facilities Management Services. RIT FMS will typically fix the problem within 1 business day. You can find the form at: https://www.rit.edu/fa/housing/requests.

Employment
- The best way to find an on campus job is through the Student Employment Office website, at http://www.rit.edu/emcs/seo/?/students/ The office is located in the University Services Center. You can also approach managers about jobs that aren’t listed.
Survival Tips

**Eating**
- Try to visit all of the different eateries on campus in your first few weeks. If you have the lowest-meal-plan option (10 plus), you have more food debit to spend at places other than Gracie’s. To find all dining locations’ menus and operating hours, visit www.rit.edu/fa/diningservices/hours-and-locations.
- If you decide to change your meal plan, first go to myhousing.rit.edu and select “Housing Contract/Dining Plan”. This has previously been accessible the first two weeks of fall semester. Please check with Dining Services for the most up-to-date information. If you enter RIT with 40 or more credits, then you have second-year standing. Check with Dining Services to see if you can be on the All-Debit plan.

**Getting Involved on Campus**
- Go to hockey games. Hockey games are a great way to spend time with friends. Tickets to Women’s Games are free with a student ID and Tickets to Men’s Games are $5 with a student ID.
- Join a club. Clubs are a great way to meet people and get involved. There is a club fair during the week of regular orientation. You can also check here: https://thelink.rit.edu/Organizations for a complete list of the clubs we have here at RIT.
- Go to the on campus festivals; Brick City Homecoming, FreezeFest, and Springfest. There’s always tons of events and giveaways these weekends. Invite your family to come Brick City weekend.
- Participate in Imagine RIT. Get involved in Imagine RIT as either an exhibitor or volunteer.

**Exercise**
- The gym is a great place to go, and you are automatically enrolled with a membership while you take classes. Avoid the evening rush – try going in the mornings or between classes.
- There are many intramurals and interesting wellness classes. Team sign-ups for intramurals usually end the first week of class, so get a team together during orientation if you can.

**Laundry**
- Avoid doing laundry Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, as these are the busiest times. All of the washers and dryers are regularly maintained, so don’t abuse them.
- Be sure that you have time to finish before you start: 40 minutes in wash, about 60 minutes to dry and time to fold if you don’t want wrinkled clothing. If it takes much longer than this, you’re overfilling the machines! Also don’t assume that everything will go smoothly (other students don’t always respect the equipment or report when it’s broken).

**Driving**
- Register your car within 10 days! Go to the Parking Office in Grace Watson Hall or find your RIT myParking account online to get a sticker and learn the lots available to you.
- If you have a car on campus, know where to park! If you have second year status, you’ll be able to park closer to the dorms. If you do happen to get a ticket, the first one may be waived if you call the Parking office.