

Application Instructions

Apply Online: admissions.rit.edu

Applicant Status

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

Early Decision Plans

If you're applying to RIT as a freshman and have identified RIT as your *first-choice* college, you may want to apply for an early review of your application through one of our Early Decision Plans.

To apply for Early Decision, you should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of your application and return your completed form along with all supporting credentials (including transcripts, SAT or ACT scores, and recommendation) by **November 1** for Early Decision I or **January 1** for Early Decision II.

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

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

Early Decision candidates should submit a FAFSA by December 1.

Regular Decision Plan

Most applications for admission to RIT are reviewed under our Regular Decision Plan.

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

All freshman applications for spring semester or summer term entry are reviewed on a rolling basis, with notification letters

mailed four to six weeks after the application is complete. All applications filed by international students are also reviewed and notified on a rolling basis.

Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Applicants

Deaf and hard-of-hearing students may apply for admission to programs offered at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) or to any other college of RIT. *Whether you are applying to an NTID program or a program in any other RIT college, you should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of the application and submit the RIT Audiological Form or an unaided audiogram completed within the last three years from a certified audiologist in order to receive the federally supported tuition rate for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.*

New York State Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program

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

New York state residents who wish to be considered for admission through HEOP should check the box for HEOP admission in the Applicant Status section. HEOP candidates must submit a FAFSA by January 15 to determine HEOP eligibility. *Please contact our HEOP Office at 585-475-2506 to discuss HEOP financial eligibility guidelines.*

HEOP admission is available only to students who have not previously attended college, or to transfer students who were part of their previous college's EOP or HEOP program. Candidates are encouraged to request a waiver of the normally required \$65 application fee if needed.

International Applicants

International students may apply using any of the Early Decision or Regular Decision plans.

International students may apply online, use this application form, or use RIT's International Student Application. Students whose native language is not English must submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination, or an equivalent to be reviewed by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

International applicants who are deaf or hard-of-hearing should check the appropriate box in the Applicant Status section of the application and submit an audiological record in order to qualify for educational access and support services provided through NTID.

Program Selection

When applying for admission to RIT, you are asked to select a specific major as part of our admission process. This is important because we offer a variety of majors, and admission requirements may differ from one program to another. In this section, you will select the major you want to study at RIT. *The majors are listed on pages 3 and 4. Please refer to this list when indicating your program choice.*

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

Undecided?

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

University Exploration Option

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

Undeclared Options

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

- **Undeclared Art and Design**
- **Business Exploration**
- **Computing Exploration**
- **Engineering Exploration**
- **Engineering Technology Exploration**
- **Film and Animation Exploration**
- **Liberal Arts Exploration**
- **Undeclared Photography**
- **Science Exploration**

Academic Transcripts

This application packet includes a Secondary School Transcript Request Form. You should take this form to your high school guidance office to be completed and returned to RIT with an official copy of your transcript in a sealed school envelope.

Portfolio Requirements

All students applying for admission to the School of Art, the School for American Crafts, the School of Design, and the School of Film and Animation must submit a portfolio for consideration. *Please review the portfolio instructions available at <http://artdesign.rit.edu/prospective-students/portfolio-guide>.*

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

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

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

Honors Program Admission

Prospective students begin the Honors program admission process by submitting RIT’s Application for Undergraduate Admission along with secondary school transcripts and SAT or ACT scores. These materials must be submitted by the deadlines associated with the Early and Regular Decision timetables. Applications postmarked by those dates are reviewed by the Undergraduate Admissions Office to select a limited number of candidates who are then admitted to the Honors program.

Important Email Instructions

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