

IGM Change of Program and Double Major/Dual Degree Guidelines

If you are an undergraduate RIT student seeking a **change of program** or a **double major/dual degree**, we have two undergraduate degrees from which you can choose:

- Game Design and Development (GAMEDES-BS) (<https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/bs-game-design-development-overview>) or
- New Media Interactive Development (NWMEDID-BS) (<https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/bs-new-media-interactive-development-overview>)

Because of the popularity of these programs and capped enrollment, we have limited availability for students seeking either a change of program or double major/dual degree. For students seeking Game Design and Development, we strongly recommend first considering one of our Minors (<https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/igm-minors-overview>).

We currently process applications twice per year, and applications are due by end of business day on **Monday, December 6, 2021 and a date to be announced later for the Spring 2022 (start Fall 2022) process**. Students accepted at the end of the Fall 2021 (2211) term will enroll in the desired major in the Spring 2022 (2215) semester. Students accepted at the end of the Spring 2022 (2215) semester will enroll in the desired major in the Fall 2022 (2221) semester.

What we look for:

We will base our decisions on the overall course work completed, grades, and the written statement as described below. Students who have done well in their programming and math courses will have a competitive advantage. Applicants must demonstrate that they have researched the program to which they are applying, passion and aptitude for their major of choice, and overall preparedness with respect to the rigors of IGM academic programs.

Learning about our programs:

Please review the posted material and FAQs on the IGM website (<https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/>). You also have the opportunity to meet with an IGM Ambassador, the IGM Undergraduate Program Director, or an IGM Academic Advisor. An ambassador is a current student who can answer your questions about the student experience in the School. Please let your interviewer know if you are interested in this option. *Please note: meeting with an ambassador or the IGM Undergraduate Program Director does not satisfy the interview requirements of this application process.*

Requirements:

- For students applying to Game Design and Development, if possible, you are encouraged to complete PHYS 111: College Physics or PHYS 211: University Physics prior to applying.
- We do not require an online portfolio, but we strongly encourage you to submit one.
- We reserve the right to “hold” on our decision regarding your application until the end of the following semester. We may need to have an additional semester of your coursework to consider when making our decision.
- Minimum GPAs: **Change of Program: 3.0; Double Major/Dual Degree: 3.5**

Required Application Materials Checklist:

- Schedule a meeting with an IGM Academic Advisor by contacting the IGM Office at 585-475-2763. **This meeting will include an interview and can be done through Zoom if requested.** This meeting must take place before December 6, 2021 or in the Spring 2022 term (depending on when you plan to submit your application). Please note that you must schedule this meeting prior to submitting your application materials so you can gain access to the MyCourses shell.
- Complete the official Registrar form (<http://www.rit.edu/academicaffairs/registrar/forms>):
 - If you are requesting a change of program, select “**Change of Program / Plan.**”
 - If you are requesting a double major or dual degree, select “**Double Major Authorization – Undergraduate Only**” or “**Dual Degree Authorization – Undergraduate Only**” depending on your primary degree program.
 - Complete Change of Program or Double Major or Dual Degree Authorization form with your home department.
 - Submit signed “Change of Program” or “Double Major” or “Dual Degree” Authorization form with your application to IGM. You’ll receive instructions on this process at your interview. If your department will send this form to IGM on your behalf and you will not be uploading it to the MyCourses shell, please inform an IGM advisor.

- Write a one to two page essay with the following:
 - Your name and local contact information
 - What you are requesting (Change of Program or Double Major or Dual Degree)
 - The requested degree
 - Why you are applying
 - Your academic strengths (with examples of why you believe these are strengths)
 - Your interest and experience in learning how to develop games and interactive media
 - Your professional goals/interests
 - Why your requested major is the “right” fit for you
 - If you applying for a double major or dual degree, please explain why you desire this path instead of a minor and/or graduate degree
 - What you believe you can contribute to the School of Interactive Games and Media and your future industry

Optional Application Materials:

- An updated résumé.
- A link to your online portfolio/website
 - a. A portfolio is a collection of work samples, which we want to see via a website. A typical portfolio has your contact information, resume, and projects. The project samples should include thumbnails/images, brief descriptions, team/individual roles, and downloads and/or links to code repositories (like GitHub). Many portfolios have additional material like development blogs, videos, and more. Ultimately, your portfolio expands upon your resume, demonstrating what you can do, what makes you stand out, and what you want to do.

Deadlines:

For Spring 2022 (2215) applicants: Your interview and application materials must be complete by end of business on **Monday, December 6, 2021**. Application materials must be submitted through the IGM Change of Major myCourses shell. You will receive access to the myCourses shell during your interview. No paper applications will be accepted.

For Fall 2022 (2221) applicants: Your interview and application materials must be complete by end of business on **to be announced**. Application materials must be submitted through the IGM Change of Major myCourses shell. You will receive access to the myCourses shell during your interview. No paper applications will be accepted.

Please note that failure to complete any part of the application process will result in an automatic rejection from the degree program for which you are applying.

Notification of Decision:

Applications submitted for the **December 6th** deadline will be evaluated during the semester break. You will receive an e-mail (at your RIT e-mail address) with our decision before Spring Semester begins. Applications submitted for the **Spring term** deadline will be evaluated during the summer semester. You will receive an e-mail (at your RIT e-mail address) with our decision before the Fall 2022 semester begins.