



Welcome Guide
2020

RIT

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RIT Coronavirus Information

We are planning the best and safest ways in which to bring the residential academic experience back, with public health considerations at the forefront. A return to campus in the fall will require innovative practices and new safety standards related to places and spaces, and how we learn, study, conduct research, collaborate, and engage with one another. The RIT Coronavirus website will be updated throughout the summer as decisions are made about our return to campus in the fall.

rit.edu/coronavirus

Please be sure to check your email frequently for important updates and information designed to make your transition to RIT as smooth as possible.

Welcome, Tigers!

On behalf of everyone at RIT, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Tiger family. Your decision to attend RIT is the beginning of what I know will be an extremely rewarding experience for both you and your family.

Our students – YOU – are essential to the future and direction of RIT. Here you'll find endless opportunities to make your mark on our RIT community, the Rochester area, and beyond. As you embark on this exciting journey, I encourage you to let your dreams soar – take advantage of our one-of-a-kind opportunities to discover and explore. But remember, you are not alone in this journey. The staff and faculty at RIT are incredibly passionate about their work and are eager to help you in a time of need as well as celebrate your successes along the way.

Our team is working diligently planning for your arrival this fall, of course with much thought in regard to the current circumstances. Throughout the summer, you and your family will receive frequent email communications containing updates and information about the current context as well as action items that you will need to complete to ensure a smooth transition. Please reach out if you have any questions or if there is any way that we can help you as you prepare to launch your RIT experience.



I wish you all the best in the coming year!

Sandra (Sandy) S. Johnson, Ed. D
Senior Vice President for Student Affairs



Welcome, Tiger Families!

We at RIT know the important role parents and family members play in their student's life. You will be a major support to your student – not just during their transition to RIT this summer but throughout their entire college experience! This Welcome Guide is your student's first introduction to college life, and we hope that you will help your student complete the action items outlined in this guide. While college is a time for students to gain independence, this transition can be overwhelming and they may need your support. Reminders and assistance from you will be very helpful as your student begins to navigate campus on their own.

The Parent and Family Programs office is here to support you during this transition and beyond. Please connect with our resources and reach out with any questions along the way. Watch for the Family Orientation Newsletter arriving in June which will help prepare you and your student for the transition to RIT. Please have your student check and update your email address at rit.edu/studentcontact.



Best,
Chelsea Petree, Ph.D.
Director, Parent and Family Programs
parents@rit.edu



Parent and Family Checklist

- Watch out for the Family Orientation Newsletter coming to your inbox beginning in June.
- Join our Tiger Parent Talks to connect with other RIT families in July and August. Upcoming dates, times, and topics can be found in the Family Orientation Newsletter.
- Check out Parent and Family Program resources at rit.edu/parents.
- Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/RITParents.

You are on to something amazing.

Use this timeline as your guide, working with your family to make sure that you have everything you need as you begin your journey.

Take note of deadlines that are upcoming, and plan ahead.

your timeline



- **Account Setup**
- **Orientation**
- **Housing, Dining, and Commuting**
- **Academics**
- **Health and Wellness**

Account Setup

Early June

Activate your RIT computer account and RIT email

You will receive an account activation email from RIT when your enrollment deposit has been received and posted to our system. Please allow 1-2 business days for deposit payment processing. The account activation email will go to the email address supplied on your admissions application.

For detailed account management information or to contact the ITS Service Desk, visit rit.edu/its/help.

Early June

Pay your bills and authorize access to eServices

Email notifications are sent to students and authorized payers (parents, guardians, etc.) when bills become available. Student Financial Services has information on fee rates, billing, payment options, loan repayment, and educational tax credit (rit.edu/sfs). The online eServices site provides real-time account inquiry and electronic payment for tuition/fees and Tiger Bucks. You can authorize up to three people to receive eBill reminder notifications and access food or Tiger Bucks balances, course schedules, and grades by logging in at rit.edu/eservices.

Early June

Update parent and emergency contact information

Take two minutes to update your parent and emergency contact information in the Student Information System at rit.edu/studentcontact.

If you are unable to access the Student Information System, visit rit.edu/its/help to report an issue.

Navigating Orientation

Transfer Orientation

Transfer students must register for Orientation 2020.

Access the Transfer Registration Form to secure your spot. You will only have access if you have activated your RIT email account.

rit.edu/orientation/transfer



Orientation

Available June 1

Register for Orientation alerts

Text **RITORI** to **888777** to receive immediate text alerts and updates related to Orientation. The Orientation text alert system will be available on June 1, and will only be used to communicate about on-campus emergencies and inclement weather during move-in and Orientation.

Early June

Find the RIT Orientation 2020 event on Facebook

Search for the RIT Orientation 2020 event on Facebook and follow Rochester Institute of Technology and RIT Student Life on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to stay connected.

Parents and family members – connect with RIT Parent and Family Programs on Facebook.



Early June

Read the RIT newsletters

You must activate your RIT email to guarantee you receive all communications from RIT. The RIT newsletters from New Student Orientation and Parent and Family Programs will help you and your family navigate the important steps required to ensure a smooth transition.

Explore RIT CampusGroups

RIT has put together an online closed group for all incoming students through our student engagement platform, RIT CampusGroups. Here, you'll have the ability to review all emails and communications sent to you prior to the start of your fall semester classes. You will also have an opportunity to connect with other incoming students by engaging in discussion topics, asking questions facilitated by Orientation staff, and participating in events. Important RIT resources will assist you as you transition into the Tiger family this summer.

Access the group at campusgroups.rit.edu. Log in using your RIT username and password. Once logged in, click the New Student Orientation group on your homepage. If you have trouble accessing the group, email ritcampusgroups@rit.edu.

** You will not have access to this closed group page until you have activated your RIT email account. Instructions on how to activate your RIT email account have been sent to the email address used when you filled out your Admissions application to RIT.*

Housing

RIT has 13 residence halls for first-year students to choose from, offering a variety of special interest and lifestyle options.

To find more information regarding all residence halls, please visit the RIT Housing website at rit.edu/housing.

Special Interest Housing

RIT provides you an opportunity to connect with other students that share a common interest, offering seven houses with a specific community focus to residence-hall living.

If you're interested in special interest housing, submit your application and essays to RIT Housing. You will receive a notification regarding your request for special interest housing.

Living Off Campus

Off-Campus and Commuter Services provides social events and programs that connect you with other off-campus students and on-campus resources.

Spend your down time at the Commuter Lounge, located in the Campus Center. In the lounge, you'll find a place to study, computers and printing capabilities, free coffee, a microwave, and refrigerator.



First-year students living in the residence halls are required to have a meal plan:

Tiger 10: \$2,918

Tiger 14: \$3,000

Tiger 19: \$3,050

Meal plans are available for all RIT students, including students living off campus.

Dining

RIT has over 21 dining locations, including an all-you-care-to-eat dining hall, coffee shops, convenience stores, and restaurants.

To learn more about your meal plan and dining options, visit rit.edu/dining.

Dining Payment Options

Tiger Bucks

Tiger Bucks can be used at all RIT dining, retail, labs, and designated off-campus locations. Funds are held in a separate account that will be rolled over each semester, with an 8% sales tax on all purchases.

You can add funds at any time via rit.edu/eservices.

Dining Dollars

Dining Dollars can be used at all RIT Dining locations (excluding Nathan's Soup and Salad, and Java Wally's), convenience stores, and vending machines. You will save 8% tax on all food purchases, and 10% at Gracie's, the all-you-care-to-eat dining hall. Any unused Dining Dollar balances at the end of the fall semester will roll-over into spring semester, and all funds must be used by the end of spring semester.

Meal Exchanges

Meal Exchanges are valued at \$9.50 and apply to any meal plan with Meal Exchanges included. They can be used at any RIT Dining location, excluding Nathan's Soup & Salad and Java Wally's. Meals reset every Sunday before breakfast.

Housing, Dining, and Commuting

June 8

Complete your housing contract to receive an appointment time

If you complete your housing contract at myLife.rit.edu by June 8, you will receive an email on June 10 with an appointment date and time to select your room.

If you choose not to self-select or complete your contract after June 8, RIT Housing will assign you to a room and roommate in July.

June 17-30

Students with appointment times self-select rooms online

Log in to myLife.rit.edu at your assigned date and time to select your room, and indicate your roommate at that time.

Early July

Review your Housing Arrival Guide and move-in materials

Review Arrival Guides and other move-in materials at rit.edu/housing.

Early July

Select your meal plan

You can select your meal plan in the myLife portal after you have selected your housing.

Visit myLife.rit.edu to select your meal plan.

Academics at RIT

Send your Transcripts and ACT/SAT Score Report

Request your final official high school/secondary school transcripts and official ACT/SAT Score Report as soon as possible to:

RIT Undergraduate Admissions Office
60 Lomb Memorial Drive Rochester, NY 14623

Your official final high school/secondary school transcript should verify your graduation date. Please contact your high school counseling office or school official and request that they send this information in an official electronic format or in a school envelope.

To check the receipt, you can log in to your RIT applicant account to review your checklist at join.rit.edu/status.

You can view your academic checklist at rit.edu/orientation.



Academic Success Center

The Academic Success Center supports you in developing the skills and competencies necessary to be successful in your academics and future career. Connect with the Academic Success Center to improve your time management and organizational skills, develop study strategies and skills, and for content support in math and physics.

Learn more at rit.edu/asc.

University Writing Program

Check out the University Writing Program at RIT. This program offers resources to assist you with your writing skills throughout your college experience including:

- UWRT 100: A preparatory class before UWRT 150
- One-on-one consultations
- Appointments in the Writing Commons with University Writing Program faculty

If you would like to take advantage of any of these resources, you will be given an opportunity on the first day of your UWRT 150 writing class.

For more resources to explore, go to rit.edu/writing.

Academics

Early June

Send us your transcripts and scores

Submit a request to have your official test scores and high school transcript sent to RIT. Official test scores can be requested from the testing agency and high school transcripts can be requested through your high school counseling office or school official.

Mid-June

Read your college's welcome email

Be on the lookout for an email from your college. The welcome email will detail important information that must be completed in order for your advisor to build your fall semester schedule.

June 30

Take the required Math Placement Exam

The Math Placement Exam is open now until June 30, and is used to help place you into your initial mathematics or statistics courses.

Detailed information about the Math Placement Exam is available at rit.edu/science/mpe.

**Bachelor of Fine Arts in the College of Art and Design students are not required to take the Math Placement Exam.*

June 30

Take the Language Placement Exam

If you plan to take a foreign language course for the fall 2020 semester and have prior language experience and/or language transfer credits, you are required to take the Language Placement Exam that is open now until June 30.

Visit rit.edu/languageplacement to schedule your exam.

Health and Wellness

Personal Wellness Plan

Take the first steps in personalizing your wellness plan at RIT by considering the following:

- Medical care and services offered on campus
- Filling prescriptions away from home
- Long-term or specialized mental health counseling
- Physical and emotional fitness plans
- Disability services and accommodations

For more information on the items above and tips for developing your personal wellness plan, visit rit.edu/orientation/freshman.



Health and Wellness

July 1

Complete and submit your health history and immunization forms

We support your health needs through our Student Health Center, which provides primary care and urgent care services to all RIT students. You must complete the five required health documents located online at wellnessportal.rit.edu. These include your immunization record, health history, tuberculosis screening, treatment authorization, and insurance plan.

Mid-July

Develop your Personal Wellness Plan

Wellness is a key component of student life at RIT. To help you engage with your physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being, we encourage you to develop your personal wellness plan before you arrive on campus.

Mid-July

Review RIT safety information

Your safety is our priority. Familiarize yourself with the RIT emergency information and protocols at rit.edu/emergency-information.



Physical and Emotional Fitness Plans

The departments within Wellness Programs and Services strive to promote and develop healthy lifestyles, social interaction, and leadership skills among RIT students. Participating in recreation activities, health promotion programming, club sports, or intramurals is a great way to meet new friends who share a common interest.

In addition, Wellness Education and Outdoor Education, combined, offer over 400 wellness-related classes each year. Students are required to take two wellness classes prior to graduation, but there is no limit to the number of classes you can take. There is a large variety of courses available for you to choose from, including Zumba, Juggling, Stress Management, Maple Syrup in our Environment, Sunrise Yoga, CPR and First Aid, Futsal, Rock Climbing, and more.

Visit rit.edu/wellness to learn about all of the different resources available to enhance your quality of life at RIT.



Student Life at RIT

With over 300 student clubs and organizations at RIT supporting over 13,000 on-campus and off-campus events, you are sure to stay busy. Whether you are into art, gaming, music, politics, science, sports, or theater, you'll almost certainly find others at RIT who share your same passion.

your passion.

Get the most out of life at RIT!

Follow us on social media.



RITigers
RITStudentLife



RITigers
RITStudentLife



Rochester Institute of Technology
RIT Student Life



Orientation 2020

Launch your RIT experience with events, activities, and unique opportunities for connection. The Orientation program is designed to provide you with the information and resources you need to be successful.

Check out rit.edu/orientation for more details.

Send us your questions at orientation@rit.edu.

You will have an Orientation Leader to help you.

As part of your Orientation experience, you and a small group of incoming first-year students will be assigned an Orientation Leader. Orientation Leaders are hand-picked to be your first mentor and friend at RIT, providing you with resources and answering questions as you begin your journey.

Transfer students may request to be placed in a group and assigned an Orientation Leader at rit.edu/orientation/transfer.

You will be given resources and have discussions with your group.

Connecting with Clubs and Organizations

There are many opportunities for you to engage in clubs and activities during your time at RIT. Throughout Orientation, you'll get a little taste of all the opportunities RIT has to get involved.

Community of Care

Caring is one of the many things that makes the RIT experience unique. Caring for yourself (self-care) and caring for others (culture of care) will be a daily part of your time here. This program will review how you can practice self-care, and participate in our culture of care.

Visit rit.edu/tigerscare to learn more.

Diversity and Inclusion

RIT is a diverse community of learners. With international students from over 100 different countries, our deaf/hard of hearing students, members of our queer community, and students from various religious backgrounds. RIT is a place where diversity is not just a buzzword but a way of life.

RIT 365*

As an incoming first-year student, you will start your academic career with the required RIT 365 course. RIT 365 is designed to help you learn the values and expectations of the RIT community, while establishing your place in the community. During Orientation, you will meet your RIT 365 group.

** This does not apply to transfer students.*

Title IX Policies and Resources

All students, faculty, and staff are protected under Title IX at RIT. This includes sexual misconduct (including sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking), sexual harassment, gender discrimination, and retaliation. Title IX violations are taken very seriously at RIT, and we are committed to providing you resources and training to help you navigate.

Visit rit.edu/fa/compliance/title-ix to learn more.

Rochester Transportation

RIT Shuttle Service

Parking and Transportation Services provides a shuttle service with scheduled stops around the RIT campus, housing, and select adjacent apartment complexes. Schedules are available at rit.edu/parking/transportation/bus. Track your bus and receive real time updates using the free TransLoc app.

In addition, the Off Campus Express shuttle route connects you to the RTS routes servicing Henrietta and the Rochester area.

For information about parking registration and permits, visit rit.edu/parking.

📍 **Greater Rochester International Airport**
1200 Brooks Ave. | Rochester, NY 14524

📍 **New York Trailways**
186 Cumberland St. | Rochester, NY 14609

📍 **Rochester Amtrak Train Station**
320 Central Ave. | Rochester, NY 14524

Check Out Our Interactive Campus Map!

With the interactive map, you can search for building locations, parking lots, landmarks, gender neutral bathrooms, and more.

Visit maps.rit.edu to start navigating RIT's campus!

Didn't Get a Chance to Walk Around Campus?

Experience Rochester Institute of Technology's campus through our virtual interactive student led tour at rit.edu/admissions/explore-rit-virtually.





RIT Apps



CampusGroups

The RIT CampusGroups app allows you to register for and easily check in at events, find clubs and organizations, and more.



DuoMobile

In order to log in to your RIT account, you will need to enroll in Multi-factor Authentication and download this app.

rit.edu/its/mfa/enroll



RIT Mobile

The RIT Mobile app contains important information such as the interactive map, event information, and bus schedules.



TigerSafe

TigerSafe is RIT's official safety app. It includes campus emergency contact information, Public Safety requests, and more.

Stay connected.

Contact Us!

New Student Orientation

rit.edu/orientation
orientation@rit.edu

Parent and Family Programs

rit.edu/parents
parents@rit.edu

International Student Services

rit.edu/iss
iss@rit.edu

RIT Global Office

rit.edu/global
global@rit.edu

English Language Center

rit.edu/elc
ritelc@rit.edu

Summer Vestibule Program

rit.edu/ntid/svp
kjmnlc@rit.edu

RIT Housing

rit.edu/housing
housing@rit.edu

RIT Dining

rit.edu/dining
dining@rit.edu

For an all-exclusive list of resources at RIT, visit rit.edu/myrit/home

