Pre-arrival

- What to bring:
  o **Important documents** – please remember to bring your passport (with a valid student visa), I-20 (F1 students) or DS-2019 (J1 students), medical records, hotel/housing confirmations, health insurance documents (if applicable). Try to bring your driver’s license if you have one, so that you could use it drive here until you get one here. (Driving rules differ from state to state, please check them online.)
  o **Please carry all your original / official transcripts or mark sheets to RIT as you will need to submit them to the Office of Graduate Studies upon arrival.**
  o **Clothes** – make sure you bring enough to last you at least 1-2 weeks! But once you get here, there will be plenty of opportunities to visit the malls and stores nearby to do some shopping. However, be sure to bring any cultural clothes with you that you think you may wear during festivals and religious holidays!
  o **Medication** – if you take any special medication, make sure to bring it with you! And remember to bring a doctor’s note along with it, just to be safe.
  o **Jewelry** – try not to bring anything incredibly expensive, but most students like bringing jewelry from their home country to match traditional clothing.
  o **Electronics** – if you have a cell phone or laptop, feel free to bring it. If you plan on buying one, we would recommend that you buy it over here, as it will be significantly cheaper. Make sure you get your adapter or the convertor that works in the U.S, you might not find it in the stores but you can get them on amazon.com. Universal adapter works well for any country.
  o **Cosmetics/toothbrush** – bring a toothbrush so you won’t be without one when you first get here.

- What not to bring:
  o **Stationery** – everything available in foreign countries is also available here. In addition, you will most likely be getting lots of free notebooks, pens, pencils, etc. when you arrive on campus – just make sure you attend as many events as possible during orientation!
- **Utensils**, such as pots, pans, spoons, forks, etc. Even special utensils used to cook ethnic foods can be found in local grocery stores, and online on amazon.com. However, if you would like to bring something not found on amazon.com, you should go ahead and bring it.

- **Groceries** – all spices and groceries that are available in foreign countries can be found here!

- **Winter clothes** – Unless your home country is very cold and snowy, we would recommend that you purchase winter clothes from the US.

- **How much money to bring?**
  - It is advisable to carry some amount of money, to last you a few days, or in case of emergencies. It is better if this money is in the form of traveler's checks or a Forex card. However, you should also carry around $50-$75 in cash and some loose change. Make sure you have lots of $1 bills with you!

  Ask your PAL for more tips!

### Arriving

- **Airport pick-up**
  - An airport pick-up service is available for students arriving between 9am - 5pm on August 12th – 18th. This service is organized by Global Union, a Major Student Organization at RIT which assists, supports and represents international students on campus and International Student Services. Students can sign-up for the service by submitting this form: [http://cglink.me/s17898](http://cglink.me/s17898)

- **Taxis & Uber/ Lyft**
  - If you are arriving outside the hours of the airport pick-up service, you will be able to take a taxi to your destination. Taxis are available at the airport. A taxi ride from the Airport to RIT and most places around RIT costs about $20 to $30. Most of the taxi drivers accept only cash and it is expected to pay about 15% of the fare as gratuity to the driver.

  - If you have downloaded the Uber or Lyft App to your phone, you can request a ride to your destination using the app. There is a special pick up location at the airport that is clearly marked for Uber / Lyft pickups.
Housing and Move-In: August 18th, 2019.

To learn more about early move-in options please visit [https://myhousing.rit.edu](https://myhousing.rit.edu)

**On Campus:** If you are moving into RIT Housing your move-in day is Saturday, August 18, 2019 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Please watch your RIT email for the International Student Move in guide which will be available in July.

If you arrive between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 pm, you will pick up your key from the RIT Housing Office in Grace Watson Hall.

If you arrive between 4:00 pm Sunday, August 18 and 8:00 a.m. on Monday, August 19, please go to the RIT Public Safety office in Grace Watson Hall and they will work with you to get your housing key.

Exception - if you are assigned to live at the RIT Inn, you will pick up your room key from the front desk located in the main lobby of the RIT Inn. Keys are available 24/7 at the front desk.

If you have questions about move-in, please contact RIT Housing at [housing@rit.edu](mailto:housing@rit.edu) or 585-475-2572.

**Off Campus:** If you are planning on living off-campus or in any apartment complexes not affiliated with RIT Housing (example: Park Point, Province, The Lodge, The Hill etc.), you must schedule your arrival date and key pick up with the leasing office of the apartment complex. It is highly recommended that you do so BEFORE coming to the US.