

R·I·T Parent & Family Programs

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Dear Parents,

We are so excited to welcome our students to campus next week! We are dedicating the middle section of the newsletter (typically a featured program or office) to the families of our incoming students. There are many things to remember about move-in day and orientation, and these last-minute tips and reminders will help prepare you for your student's arrival.

News and Deadlines

Health Insurance

RIT expects all students to carry medical insurance. Students may use family or individual policies or obtain [RIT insurance](#). If your student will use a family plan, please contact the company to determine what coverage your student has in Rochester (many companies have limited out-of-network coverage). Your student's ability to find providers and obtain

reimbursement for health care expenses may be limited. RIT offers a robust Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) student health insurance plan through Aetna Student Health. The plan offers an expansive provider network across the U.S. and out-of-network benefits are available. Enrollment in the RIT plan is voluntary for domestic students; international students on [some visas](#) are automatically enrolled in the plan each semester.

Goodbye, Goodbuy

Goodbye, Goodbuy is a student-run initiative that provides both new and returning students the opportunity to furnish dorms and apartments at affordable prices. Last spring during move-out week, Goodbye, Goodbuy collected over 35 tons of goods left behind from students, which will be on sale during move-in week. Inventory includes items such as: furniture, clothing, fans, lamps, fridges, televisions, speakers, and kitchenware. The sale will be on August 16 from 12-5 p.m. and on August 17-20 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in Clark Gym. Students interested in volunteering at Goodbye, Goodbuy (and receiving the volunteer discount) can [sign up online](#).

Financial Aid

Be sure that your student has completed all financial aid requirements on [eServices](#). Once in eServices, your student can click on "Financial Aid and Scholarships" to see what is still required. If your student has granted you access, you can sign in with your own eServices account to see these requirements. All required financial aid documents should be submitted by September 1 to ensure that your student's financial aid award is applied toward the RIT billable charges. You can contact the office of [Financial Aid and Scholarships](#) with any questions (585-475-2186).

Brick City Homecoming and Family Weekend

As noted in [July's newsletter](#), planning for Brick City Homecoming and Family Weekend is underway and the Parent and Family Programs office is excited to introduce new family events in 2016. Registration will be available on the [Brick City Weekend website](#) tomorrow (August 11) at noon. October may seem far off, but events fill up quickly so register soon!

Designated Smoking Areas

In effort to create a healthy working, learning, and living environment, RIT is a tobacco-restricted campus. All smoking and use of tobacco products (including e-cigarettes) are restricted to six designated tobacco areas on all university-managed properties. Please refer to the [map of designated smoking areas](#) when you visit campus, and remind your student about these areas if he/she smokes.

News, Notes, and Tips for Families of Incoming Students

Fall Arrival Guide

Be sure to check out the [2016 Fall Arrival Guides](#) from Housing Operations. This is where you find your student's designated move-in time and instructions for move-in day.

Family Orientation Registration

If you are attending Family Orientation on August 16-17, please [register online](#). We are expecting many families at orientation—please arrive to sessions early!

Registration for the Tiger Welcome Picnic is now closed; no additional tickets are available. If you have registered for the picnic, please bring your confirmation (electronically or printed) as your ticket into the event. If you are not attending the picnic, visit the [Dining Services website](#) for campus dining options. Please note that students are not required to dine at the picnic and can join you elsewhere.

Label Student Belongings

Be sure to label your student's belongings with name and room number. There will be many students moving in and clear labels on boxes, storage containers, and bags will help make sure all belongings get to the correct room. You can use the printable luggage tags available in the [Arrival Guide](#).

Moving In

Please try to arrive during your scheduled arrival time. RIT has made every effort to balance student arrival times to make your experience as smooth as possible, and sticking to the schedule is key to a smooth process. If you need help, please ask for it! We will have professionals and student staff from Housing Operations, Residence Life, Orientation, Parent and Family Programs, and several other offices across campus to assist you and your student during your arrival and into Orientation. We are here to welcome you to RIT.

Student Orientation Check-In

When you arrive in your designated parking lot, your student will leave your car to pick up his/her housing and mail box keys and check in to New Student Orientation. Your student will be receiving a welcome newsletter this week that includes more details about this process.

Family Welcome Bags

If you are dropping your student off at RIT, please make sure you get your Family Welcome Bag. On Saturday, August 13, bags will be handed out in the lobby of Grace Watson Hall (where students will pick up their keys and check in to pre-orientation programs). On August 16, bags will be handed out in the parking lots as students pick up keys and RIT IDs.

Family Orientation Schedules

The full, printed schedule will be handed out along with the Family Welcome Bags at move in. A mobile version of the Family and Student Orientation schedules will be available on the RIT mobile app under the Orientation icon. You can download the RIT mobile app from [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#). Please note that the mobile app does not include full session descriptions.

Conversations to Have

It's not too late to have those important conversations with your students. For suggestions, see the [This Summer section](#) of the 2016 Online Family Orientation. Your student will thank you for that laundry lesson!

Communication Expectations

Even if your student is living at home and commuting to RIT, your communications will be very different. Have a discussion now about communication expectations for the first couples weeks. Will you have a set time to call a few days in? Will you have regular conversations once a week? Check in with texts? Be flexible and revisit this discussion as your student adjusts to life at RIT.

Student Schedule

Remember that your students will be busy with New Student Orientation beginning Tuesday evening (August 16). Orientation is the time when students become acquainted with campus and meet other students, so it's important they be engaged with their new classmates, roommates, and friends.

Saying Goodbye

Saying goodbye is hard, but follow your student's cues and know when to leave. Try not to

drag it out and save your tears for the drive home. If you are struggling with how to say goodbye, stick to “I am proud of you.”

Information and Updates

RIT Alert

[RIT Alert](#) is the system used at RIT to immediately notify the campus community in significant emergency or dangerous situations involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students, faculty and staff occurring on or near campus. Students' cell phone numbers are automatically transferred into RIT Alert, but please remind them to make sure [they are enrolled](#), or to change their preferences.

Student Employment

In keeping with RIT's tradition of experiential education, student employment is seen as another aspect of the student's educational experience. Students must research, apply, and interview for positions they are interested in. It is recommended that students bring an updated copy of their resume as well as their class schedule with them while job searching and interviewing. Students must bring original identification documents with them to campus to fill out an I-9 once a job offer has been made. Please note that per federal regulations we cannot accept photos or copies. For a complete list of acceptable documents, and any further Student Employment Information please visit the [Student Employment Office website](#).

Parent Poll

Each month, we ask parents to respond to our Parent Poll and provide feedback on a topic related to RIT, your student, and you. In July, we asked parents what they see as the primary benefit of students learning abroad. Nearly half responded "personal growth and development;" one-quarter responded "experiencing a new culture." Please take a moment to answer our [August question](#).

Parent Tip

Encourage students to ask for help before they need it

Students may struggle academically for a variety of reasons, and it's not always because the subject matter is difficult. College students often learn difficult lessons about time management and study skills. Support is available at RIT for all types of academic challenges. The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides online resources, in-person appointments, and study centers to assist students' academic success. [Academic Coaching](#), for example, allows students to work one-on-one with a Student Support Specialist to enhance time management and study habits, as well as learn about campus resources. Students do not have to wait until they are in trouble to use these resources! Check out [ASC Online](#) for videos and blogs or the [ASC website](#) for resources, schedules, and services.

Listserv Preferences

If you would like to change your email preferences for this list or unsubscribe from the Parent and Family Newsletter, please do so on the [Parent and Family Programs website](#). *Please note that updating or removing your email address from this list does not change or remove your information from the official RIT parent database.*

Sincerely,
Chelsea Petree

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Director | Parent and Family Programs
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Thank you.