

# R·I·T Parent & Family Programs

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December 14, 2016

*In this message:*

- **News and Deadlines**
  - Important Winter Dates
  - End of Semester Housing Guides
  - Winter Break Bus
  - Final Grades
- **Information and Updates**
  - Applied Study Strategies
  - Saunders Accelerated 4+1 MBA Program
  - FAFSA Reminder
  - Parent Poll
  - Parent Tip

**Dear Parents,**

Finals week is upon us and, before you know it, many of your students will be home for winter break! As this is a busy time of year, this newsletter is brief and includes information about break, academic options to discuss with interested students, and tips for their return home. Happy Holidays!

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## News and Deadlines

### Important Winter Dates

Please note the following dates regarding RIT closures, Intersession, and spring semester opening:

- December 17: Residence halls close for winter break
- December 26-January 2: RIT CLOSED for the Holidays
- January 3-20: Intersession
- January 16: Residence halls open for spring semester
- January 23: Spring semester classes begin

## **End of Semester Housing Guides**

Housing Operations has provided [End of Semester Prep Guides](#) for students living in RIT housing. These guides include information for students not returning to RIT Housing for spring semester, what to do if students are expecting a new roommate, and how to prepare for winter break. Before leaving for winter break please remind your student to:

- Empty trash cans
- Close and lock windows
- Clean out refrigerator
- Close shades (students living on the first floor only)
- Lock apartment/suite/room door
- Move all electronic equipment off the floor and unplug it
- Set heater to automatic and set room temperature to at least 65 degrees

## **Winter Break Bus**

Student Government is offering a free bus for students to the airport and bus and Amtrak stations on Friday, December 16 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Saturday, December 17 from 6 a.m.-1 p.m. For details, see the [SG website](#).

## **Final Grades**

Final Grades are due December 19. Shortly after they are submitted by professors, student can view grades by logging into SIS.

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## **Information and Updates**

### **Applied Study Strategies**

The Academic Support Center offers courses to support academic success. Each spring semester, there are three class sections of Applied Study Strategies specifically for first-year students. Any student, regardless of class year, who is faced with academic challenges or simply wants to gain insights and develop stronger skills in topics related to academic success can enroll in these courses. More information can be found on the [Academic Support Center website](#).

### **Saunders Accelerated 4+1 MBA Program**

All RIT undergraduate students have the opportunity to complete a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in one year after completing their undergraduate degree. The two-year program can be reduced to a one-year program by integrating select undergraduate coursework to waive select MBA core courses. Students from RIT who meet the [full admissions requirements](#) to the MBA program, will receive a minimum 20% scholarship award and application fee waiver. For MBA core course waiver details visit the [Accelerated 4+1 website](#). Students can start working with their academic advisor today to begin planning for their graduate program!

### **FAFSA Reminder**

As noted in the [October issue of the newsletter](#), there have been changes to the FAFSA process for 2017-18. Students can now use 2015 income and tax information for the

2017-18 application, meaning students can complete their FAFSA earlier than before. For more information, visit the [Federal Student Aid 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 November, we asked if your student has given you parent access through eServices, and 90% of you replied yes. Please take a moment to answer our [December question](#).

### **Parent Tip**

#### ***Winter Break***

Here are a few tips as your students return home for winter break:

- Remember that your student is not the same person they were in high school. Even if this was their first semester away, they have experienced a lot and are growing into the adult they will become.
- Negotiation is important during your student's time home. You can set house rules, but remember your student is used to more independence and a different schedule. Compromise as much as you can.
- The key to compromise is communication. Have a conversation early on with your student about your expectations, and listen to what they expect over break as well.
- Don't panic if your student didn't earn perfect grades. If they are concerned about academics, have a conversation about the many academic support resources at RIT.
- Finals are hard. Your student might just want to sleep for a couple days straight. Don't be concerned-this is normal.
- Enjoy your time together! It is a long time until second semester, but it will go by quickly.

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Sincerely,

### **Chelsea A. Petree, Ph.D.**

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