

First-Year Admissions Overview

Admission Pathways

Applicants select from three entry paths:

1 Apply directly to a major and start your desired course work right away.

2 Apply to a college-based Exploration Option to learn more about specific majors within a college.

3 Apply to the Individualized Program major to design a degree around your interests, goals, and career aspirations.

RIT is test-optional.

You may choose to apply SAT/ACT test-optional, or choose to have scores considered with your application.

Admission to RIT is competitive, but our admission process is a personal one. Each application is reviewed holistically for strength of academic preparation, counselor recommendations, and your personal career interests. We seek applicants from a variety of geographic, social, cultural, and economic backgrounds.


For all bachelor's degree programs, a strong performance in a college preparatory program is expected. Generally, this includes 4 years of English, 3-4 years of mathematics, 2-3 years of science, and 3 years of social studies and/or history. **See specific math and science requirements and other recommendations below.**

College	Majors and Options	Specific Math and Science Requirements and Other Recommendations	Middle 50% of Accepted Applicants for 2024	
College of Art and Design	School of Art <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illustration • Medical Illustration • Studio Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ceramics Option – Furniture Design Option – Glass Option – Metals and Jewelry Design Option – Printmaking Option – Painting Option – Sculpture & Expanded Forms Option • Studio Arts Exploration Option¹ 	School of Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3D Digital Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 3D Visualization Option – Game Arts Option • Graphic Design • Industrial Design • Interior Design • <i>New Media Design</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All programs require studio art experience and a portfolio of original artwork. • Portfolio guidelines can be found at rit.edu/artdesign/portfolio-requirements. • Medical illustration requires biology. 	GPA 91-96 SAT 1280-1440 ACT 28-33
	School of Film and Animation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film and Animation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Animation Option – Production Option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Motion Picture Science</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film and Animation requires a portfolio. Guidelines at rit.edu/admissions/first-year-application#what-we-look-for. • Motion picture science requires 4 years of math which must include algebra, geometry, algebra 2/trigonometry, and pre-calculus. Calculus is preferred. Chemistry or physics is required and both are recommended. 	GPA 92-96 SAT 1300-1410 ACT 29-32
	School of Photographic Arts and Sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographic and Imaging Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Advertising Photography Option – Fine Art Photography Option – Photojournalism Option – Visual Media Option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Photographic Sciences</i> • Photographic Arts and Sciences Exploration Option¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographic sciences requires 3 years of math (algebra, geometry, and algebra 2/ trigonometry). Pre-calculus and biology preferred. 	GPA 89-95 SAT 1180-1370 ACT 25-32
Saunders College of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounting • Finance • Global Business Management • Hospitality and Tourism Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Information Systems • Marketing • <i>Supply Chain Management</i> • Business Exploration¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/trigonometry). Pre-calculus preferred. 	GPA 91-96 SAT 1250-1420 ACT 27-33
Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science • Computing and Information Technologies* • Cybersecurity • Game Design and Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Human-Centered Computing*</i> • <i>New Media Interactive Development</i> • Software Engineering • Web and Mobile Computing* • Computing Exploration¹ 	*Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/trigonometry). Pre-calculus preferred. • Chemistry or physics is required; both preferred. • Computing electives preferred. All Other Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/ trigonometry, pre-calculus). Calculus preferred. • Chemistry or physics is required; both preferred. • Computing electives preferred. 	GPA 93-98 SAT 1360-1510 ACT 31-35
Kate Gleason College of Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomedical Engineering • Chemical Engineering • Computer Engineering • Electrical Engineering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial Engineering • Mechanical Engineering • <i>Microelectronic Engineering</i> • Engineering Exploration¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/trigonometry, pre-calculus). Calculus preferred. • Chemistry and physics are required. • Biomedical Engineering requires biology. 	GPA 94-98 SAT 1360-1500 ACT 32-34
College of Engineering Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil Engineering Technology • Computer Engineering Technology • Electrical Engineering Technology • Environmental Sustainability, Health and Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical Engineering Technology • Mechatronics Engineering Technology • <i>Robotics and Manufacturing Engineering Technology</i> • <i>Packaging Science</i> • Print and Graphic Media Technology • Engineering Technology Exploration¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/trigonometry). Pre-calculus preferred for all programs. • Chemistry or physics required and biology recommended. • Technology electives preferred. 	GPA 91-96 SAT 1290-1440 ACT 29-34
College of Health Sciences and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomedical Sciences • Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Ultrasound) • Exercise Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Public Health • Nutritional Sciences • Physician Assistant (BS/MS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/trigonometry). Pre-calculus is preferred. • Pre-calculus is preferred for all programs. • For Global Public Health, pre-calculus and/or statistics is preferred. • Biology and chemistry are required for all programs.** 	GPA 94-98 SAT 1290-1450 ACT 29-33

**Diagnostic Medical Sonography does not require chemistry but does prefer chemistry and physics.

College	Majors and Options	Specific Math and Science Requirements and Other Recommendations	Middle 50% of Accepted Applicants for 2024	
College of Liberal Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising and Public Relations Applied Modern Language and Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Chinese Option – French Option – Japanese Option – Spanish Option Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Journalism Option Criminal Justice Economics English History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Humanities, Computing, and Design</i> International and Global Studies Museum Studies Philosophy Political Science Psychology Sociology and Anthropology Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Liberal Arts Exploration¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, and algebra 2/trigonometry). Strong performance in English and Social Studies is expected. 	GPA 90-96 SAT 1270-1430 ACT 28-33
College of Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applied Mathematics Applied Statistics and Data Analytics Biochemistry Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Biology Biotechnology and Molecular Bioscience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemistry Computational Mathematics Environmental Science <i>Imaging Science</i> Neuroscience Physics 	<p>Math Programs and Imaging Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/ trigonometry, pre-calculus). Calculus preferred. Chemistry or physics is required and both are recommended. <p>Physics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/ trigonometry, pre-calculus). Calculus preferred. 3 years of science; physics is required. <p>All Other Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years of math is required (algebra, geometry, algebra 2/trigonometry). Pre-calculus recommended. Biology is required for Biochemistry, Biology, Biotechnology and Molecular Bioscience, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, Environmental Science, and Neuroscience. It is recommended for Chemistry. Chemistry is required for all programs. 	GPA 94-98 SAT 1350-1510 ACT 30-34
National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID)	Deaf and hard-of-hearing students seeking admission to bachelor's degree programs in the other colleges of RIT should refer to the information for the appropriate college and apply for NTID support and access services during the application process.			
	Bachelor's Degree Programs			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Sign Language-English Interpretation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong performance in English is expected Must demonstrate competency to begin at ASL II 	GPA 89-96 SAT 1140-1320 ACT 23-28	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development and Inclusive Leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong performance in English and social sciences is expected ASL fluency required for hearing students applying to the Deaf Leadership track 	GPA 89-95 SAT 1140-1320 ACT 23-28	
	<p>A Pre-baccalaureate Studies Option is available for students who may need additional preparation before entering a bachelor's degree program in engineering, liberal arts, science and mathematics, or visual communications and imaging arts.</p>			If submitting test scores, NTID recommends the ACT. GPA 81-88 ACT 18-21
<p>Associate Degree Leading to Bachelor's Degree (A + B) Programs (Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students ONLY)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting Technology Administrative Support Technology Applied Computer Technology Applied Liberal Arts Applied Mechanical Technology Business 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Administration Civil Technology General Science Laboratory Science Technology Mobile Application Development 3D Graphics Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years of math for engineering and science; 2 for other programs 2 years of science for engineering and science; 1 for other programs English language skills as evidenced by application materials 	If submitting test scores, NTID recommends the ACT. GPA 81-88 ACT 18-21
<p>Career-focused Associate Degree Programs (Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students ONLY)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3D Graphics Technology Accounting Technology Administrative Support Technology Applied Computer Technology Architectural and Civil Drafting Technology Business Administration 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Technology Career Exploration Studies¹ Design and Imaging Technology Laboratory Science Technology Mobile Application Development Precision Manufacturing Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College-bound high school curriculum English language skills as evidenced by application materials Career-related electives desirable 	If submitting test scores, NTID recommends the ACT. GPA 80-86 ACT 14-17
School of Individualized Study (SOIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Individualized Program</i>² 	<p>All Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years of math is required and must include algebra, geometry, and algebra 2/trigonometry Strong performance in English and Social Studies is expected 	GPA 94-98 SAT 1320-1450 ACT 29-35	

¹ A one-year program for students wishing to explore before selecting a specific major.

² This degree offers students the opportunity to create individualized undergraduate programs of technical and professional study.  *New Economy Major*

RIT Honors Program	RIT Combined Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's Degrees	College of Liberal Arts Partner Programs
Honors students are among the best of the best at RIT. The Honors Program celebrates their talents and potential with special courses and learning opportunities that enrich the RIT academic experience, leadership and service options that aid personal growth, and a supportive community to develop lifelong relationships. Learn more rit.edu/honors	Earn two degrees in less time and with a cost savings. Outstanding first-year applicants may be offered Conditional Early acceptance to a graduate program. Current students can apply through the Enrolled Student Pathway after their second or third year of study. Learn more rit.edu/accelerated	The accelerated 3+3 BS/JD fast-tracks your pathway to law school, maximizing time and financial resources. Apply by RIT application deadlines to be considered for conditional acceptance to Syracuse University College of Law or University at Buffalo School of Law. Learn More rit.edu/liberalarts/33-bs-jd-pre-law-program