



RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

International Student Information Packet



Rhode Island College
Office of Undergraduate
Admissions
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908
USA
1-800-669-5760
www.ric.edu
internationals@ric.edu
admissions@ric.edu
transfer@ric.edu

Dear Prospective Student:



Thank you for your interest in Rhode Island College. We are an accredited, publicly recognized New England college with small classes, highly qualified teachers and an internationally known record of success. During your stay at Rhode Island College you can enjoy the best of New England coastal culture. We are the “Ocean State” and boast many miles of beautiful beaches, forests and parks. We are within a few hours of the ski slopes of Vermont, New Hampshire and New York. Boston and New York City are nearby with rapid train, air, and highway connection.

In recent years, we have welcomed many international students to our campus. They have graduated and made successful careers in international business holding leadership positions in Shanghai, Japan and Argentina in major corporations, Revlon and Sony. One of our international graduates made Bollywood films in India, and in Germany two artists have attained great success with exhibits in New York and major European galleries. A RIC international graduate from South Africa has started a charitable organization in his home country for poor children with AIDS. Other graduates are nurses, college professors, lawyers, restaurant owners, filmmakers, scientists and educators.

A student here has many opportunities to develop lifelong friendships. Classes average 20 students and are limited to a maximum of 30. There are many clubs on campus from V.I.S.A., the International Student Club, and the Asian Club, Latin American Student Organization, political clubs, sports clubs and special interest clubs. Since there are a dozen colleges and universities in the small state of Rhode Island you may socialize with students from your own or many other cultures. You can join sports teams such as soccer, basketball and tennis or participate in theatre, dance and debate, join student government, become a DJ on the radio station, or write for the student newspaper. Rhode Island College has much to offer students, a safe suburban campus close to a metropolitan center with chances to fully develop your talents, friendships, and professional skills.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO TOUR OUR CAMPUS

Campus Visits:

<http://www.ric.edu/campustours>

Virtual Campus Tour:

<http://www.ric.edu/virtualtour>

Admission:

<http://www.ric.edu/admissions/Pages/International-Students.aspx> or internationals@ric.edu

About RIC

Located on a 180-acre campus in Providence, Rhode Island, Rhode Island College (RIC) is a leading, comprehensive public college with over 9,000 students. RIC has a diverse, multi-ethnic student community that respects diversity and values academic excellence informed by cultural inquiry, civic engagement, and co-curricular activity. Our dedicated faculty work with students to achieve the promise of higher education: an open and inquiring mind.

Location



Rhode Island is the smallest state in the USA, yet boasts 400 miles of coastline in a compact 48 by 37-mile package. With four distinct seasons, you can enjoy Rhode Island's salt water beaches in the summer and nearby New England ski resorts in the winter. Rhode Island College is located less than 5-miles from downtown Providence, providing you all the advantages of a great city from its suburban campus. There is convenient bus service from campus to downtown to shops, movies, entertainment and restaurants. From campus or downtown, Providence is less than an hour to Boston and three hours to New York City. Providence combines the accessibility and friendliness of a small town with the culture and sophistication of a big city. With a thriving arts community, vibrant and diverse neighborhoods, great restaurant scene and so many

things to do, Providence is the perfect place to be a college student. Historic and hip, sophisticated and small-town, Providence packs the best of New England into one convenient and colorful package.

Academic Life

Our faculty are scholars, researchers and practitioners whose primary mission is teaching and mentoring our students. This, plus an average class size of 20 and a student/ faculty ratio is 15:1 assure a personalized learning experience. RIC offers nearly 90 undergraduate majors and programs including a wide range of programs in management, education, health and natural sciences, nursing, performing and fine arts, and social work. Students make participate in the College Honors Program, a community of high-achieving, motivated students who participate in small discussion-oriented classes. The program provides individual attention to your academic and intellectual development and the option for a senior honors project with your choice of topic and professor. Students may be considered for merit-based scholarships.

Student Life

Rhode Island College offers a rich and rigorous environment for each student to engage in learning, both in and out of the classroom. We provide programs, services and co-curricular experiences which enhance student success. The annual RIC Kick Off for new students occurs in the first two weeks of classes and includes welcome events, trips, outdoor movies and receptions. There are more than 80 clubs and organizations, including a student-run radio station, cultural awareness organizations, academic clubs for specific majors, and community service groups. Rhode Island College also sponsors 21 NCAA Division III varsity sports for men and women. The college's Recreation Center, has been expanded to 80,000 square feet and includes a pool, a free-weight facility, a cardio center, a sports medicine area, three playing courts, an indoor track, a multimedia room, a new lounge equipped with wi-fi and state-of-the-art video screens, an outdoor terrace, and a new multipurpose studio built to accommodate the latest in fitness programming. All registered students are automatic members of the Recreation Center.



Admission



Rhode Island College welcomes applications from international students. For purposes of admission, an international student is defined as a student who is studying or wishes to study in the U.S. on a non-immigrant visa. This definition does not include permanent residents (who can supply a copy of both sides of the resident alien card) or applicants with temporary protected or refugee status. International applicants who are transferring from another U.S. college or university must notify the registrar of the “sending” institution of their plans to transfer to Rhode Island College.

Required Materials:

- ✓ A completed Common Application and RIC Supplement. This includes a \$50 nonrefundable application fee. The Common Application may be completed online at www.commonapp.org . International students currently living or studying in the U.S. must also supply a home country address on the application.
- ✓ Official copies of all academic records with a certified course-by course evaluation (with grades) **and** English translation. Rhode Island College requires all students to have any coursework completed outside the U.S translated and evaluated by an approved agency. This includes members of NACES (www.naces.org) and AICE (www.aice-eval.org).
- ✓ English language proficiency for non-native speakers through one of the following:
 - TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), minimum paper-based 550 or iBt score of 79
 - IELTS (International English Language Testing System), minimum score of 6.5
 - PTE (Pearson Test of English), minimum score of 63

Students who attended a secondary school or college where instruction was in English may be exempt from the test proficiency depending on grades and SAT scores. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Deadlines:

Fall Admission-June 1st

Students seeking on campus housing should have all materials in prior to March 1. Housing is guaranteed for new freshmen who have been admitted and enrolled prior to May 1 and meet housing deadline.

Spring Admission-November 15th

Credential Evaluations

Rhode Island College requires all students to have any coursework completed outside the U.S translated and evaluated by NACES or AICE member agency. This is a very important step in the application process and does require a significant amount of time (generally 3-4 weeks). Approved agencies include:

SpanTran Educational Services, Inc.
450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 604
New York, NY 10123
Phone: (646) 475-2570
Fax: (646) 475-2580

Website: www.spantran-edu.com

Academic Credentials Evaluation
Institute, Inc.
P.O. Box 6908, Beverly Hills, CA
90212
Phone: (310) 275-3530 Fax: (310)
275-3528

Website: www.acei1.com

Email: acei@acei1.com

Evaluation Service, Inc.
333 W. North Avenue, #284
Chicago, IL 60610
Phone (847) 477-8569
Fax (312) 587-3068
email: info@evaluationservice.net

Website: www.evaluationservice.net

Center for Educational
Documentation, Inc.
P.O. Box 199
Boston MA 02117
(617) 338-7171
FAX 617-338-7101

www.cedevaluations.com

Educational Credential Evaluators,
Inc
PO Box 514070
Milwaukee WI 53203-3470
(414) 289-3400
Fax 414-289-3411

<http://www.ece.org>

International Education Research
Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 3665
Culver City, CA 90231-3665
Phone (310) 258-9451, Ext. 131
Fax (310) 342-7086

email: info@ierf.org

Website: www.ierf.org

Global Credential Evaluators, Inc.
P.O. Box 9203
College Station, TX 77842-9203
Phone: (512) 528-0908
Fax: (512) 528-9293

Website: <http://www.gceus.com>

World Education Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 745
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-0745
(212) 966-6311

FAX 212-966-6395

Toll Free 800-937-3895

info@wes.org

<http://www.wes.org>

Educational Perspectives, nfp.
P.O. Box 618056
Chicago, IL 60661-8056
Phone: (312) 421-9300
Fax: (312) 421-9353

email: info@edperspective.org

<http://www.edperspective.org>

Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.
International Education Consultants
7101 SW 102 Avenue
Miami, FL 33173
(305) 273-1616/Fax: (305) 273-1338

www.jsilny.com

For a full listing of NACES or AICE member agencies, visit www.naces.org or www.aice-eval.org .

Resources for International Students

Rhode Island College International Student Office

<http://www.ric.edu/iss/>

The Rhode Island College International Student Office is a most important official resource for international students who are currently attending or applying to Rhode Island College. The International Student Office will help you find answers to your specific questions about U.S. government forms, the process of entering and leaving the country, employment requests, Practical Training, financial needs, taxes, health, housing, academic and personal issues. The office also hosts social activities, such as coffee hours, parties, and picnics as well as cultural activities. The International Student Office is located in Gaige Hall-Room 325 and the advisor is Karina Mascorro (kmascorro@ric.edu).

Career Development Center

The Career Development Center serves as a bridge between the college and the world of work. Counselors will help you choose a major, make career decisions, access internship and job opportunities on and off-campus, develop job search skills and strategies, and apply to graduate school. Approval is required to work off-campus, but international students may be eligible for on-campus employment up to 20 hours per week. There are numerous opportunities for paid and unpaid internships at Rhode Island College and in the surrounding communities. Individual academic departments and schools also offer internship credit in their programs. The Career Development Center is located in Roberts Hall.

<http://www.ric.edu/careerdevelopment>

Scholarships

Rhode Island College recognizes superior academic achievement through the awarding of scholarships. There are several merit-based scholarship programs available to all students at the College:

Presidential Scholarships: These merit-based scholarships of at least \$2,000 per year are awarded to entering freshmen for up to four years of study. Presidential Scholarship recipients rank in the top 30% of their class with combined SAT-I scores of at least 1100 (critical reading and mathematics) or an ACT composite score of at least 24.

Honors Scholarships: Honors Scholarships are awarded to academically superior Freshman Students. Contact Dr. Rebecca Sparks, Director of the Honors Program at rsparks@ric.edu

Special Talent Awards: These awards recognize and encourage students who have exceptional talent or skill in the visual and performing arts, or other creative fields. The College currently offers Special Talent Awards to entering freshmen and transfer students in art, communication, dance, film studies, music, and theatre. Requirements vary by department, and awards range from \$100 to \$2,500. Applicants should contact the academic department or club advisor in their area of interest.



Proof of Funding Requirements for Student Visas

United States Citizenship & Immigration Services require international applicants to provide proof of available funds before an I-20 form can be issued.

Upon acceptance, you must submit an original Declaration & Certification of Finances Form, verifying the ability to pay education and living expenses for the first academic year of study. This document must be original (no copies), current (within the past 6 months) and certified by bank seal or notary. If you are currently in the United States on an F-1 visa (transferring from another U.S. college or university), you must notify your previous institution and complete a new certification of finances and obtain a new I-20 from Rhode Island College.

Expenses will vary depending on whether you are living in college housing or in a sponsor's/ relative's home. Generally certified bank statements from any number of sources (self/relative/sponsor) can be used to verify funding for tuition, fees, on-campus room, board and other expenses. A relative/sponsor can verify that your board and room will be provided free of charge (please complete attached Affidavit of Sponsor Providing Free Room & Board). Also you may list on-campus employment (Students are allowed to work on-campus up to 20 hours per week. A student could expect to earn \$4,000 to \$5,000 dollars per year), scholarships or loans you have received from any source. All sources of support must have official documentation and equal at least **\$37,899**. Additional acceptable forms of documentation are indicated on the Declaration and Certification of Finances Form.

Holders of student visas are required to be full-time students (minimum of 12 credit hours for undergraduate students and 9 credit hours for graduate students each semester).

Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination

Pursuant to the philosophy of the Board of Governors for Higher Education and Rhode Island College and its administration, the College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation, disabled veteran, veteran of the Vietnam era, or citizenship status. This nondiscrimination policy encompasses the operation of the College's educational programs and activities, including admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic, and all other programs. It also encompasses the employment of College personnel and contracting by the College for goods and services. Rhode Island College is committed to taking affirmative action to ensure that this nondiscrimination policy is effectively observed in all the College's endeavors.

<u>Source of Funds</u>	<u>Supporting Documents Required</u>	<u>Support Amount in U.S. \$</u>
Personal Savings Account (print bank name) <hr/>	Original letter from bank on bank letterhead indicating account type & available funds (with bank stamp/seal) OR Original bank statement indicating account type & available funds (with bank stamp/seal) OR Official certification of funds indicated by bank signature and stamp/seal at the bottom of this document	
Parent/Sponsor (print name of each person providing support & relationship to student) <hr/> NAME, RELATIONSHIP <hr/> NAME, RELATIONSHIP	Original letter from bank on bank letterhead indicating account type & available funds (with bank stamp/seal) OR Original bank statement indicating account type & available funds (with bank stamp/seal) OR Official certification of funds indicated by bank signature and stamp/seal at the bottom of this document	
Other funding sources (please specify): <hr/>	Original notarized letter indicating type and amount of support (scholarship, etc.). If free room and board is provided by a parent/sponsor, please complete attached room and board support form (free room and board may account for \$11,882 of student support funding).	
	TOTAL AMOUNT (Must be at least \$37,899)	

Official certification of sources of funds and amounts

- This is to certify that I have read the information furnished by the applicant on this form, that it is a true and accurate statement, and that the funds described above are available.

Parent/Guardian/Sponsor's name: _____

Parent/Guardian/Sponsor's signature: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____ Relationship to applicant: _____

- ◆ This is to certify that I have read the information furnished by the applicant on this form, that it is a true and accurate statement, and that the funds described above are available.

Bank official's name: _____ Title: _____

Bank official's signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of bank: _____ Official bank stamp/seal

Address: _____

I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate. I take financial responsibility should my source(s) of funding, as specified above, be interrupted or stopped.

Applicant's signature _____ Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE
AFFIDAVIT OF SPONSOR PROVIDING FREE ROOM AND BOARD**

TO BE COMPLETED ONLY BY PERSON(S) WHO OWNS OR RENTS THE PROPERTY.

I hereby affirm that I own, rent, or lease the property described below and that I will make it available without charge and without services-in-lieu-of-payment to the student named for the duration of his/her studies at Rhode Island College.

Name of Student _____

Address, including room or apartment number, of the residence offered to the student:

Relationship of sponsor to student _____

How many rooms are in the house or apartment? _____

How much space will be reserved for the **exclusive** use of the student? _____

Does the sponsor live at the address listed above? ____ Yes ____ No

Does the sponsor _____ own or _____ rent/lease the property being offered?

=====

AFFIRMATION OR OATH

I hereby affirm or swear that the contents of the above statement are true and correct. I agree not to require any services from the student in return for the promised support and understand that it would be a serious violation of the law to require domestic work, child care, or any other kinds of service.

Signature of sponsor _____

Name of sponsor (print) _____

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS _____ OF _____ 20 _____.

Signature of Notary _____ (Seal)

My Commission Expires _____

Note: Please give the original document to the student you are supporting to submit to our office with their other sources of support.