Our individualized, holistic and need-blind admission process examines an applicant’s academic prowess, creativity, motivation, artistic talent, leadership potential, and life experiences.

Read the following instructions thoroughly. Information on application requirements and arranging an admission interview is included in this document, as well as additional instructions on applying to the Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Program, the School of Architecture, and The Shepherd School of Music.

Feel free to contact our office should you have any questions about our application process. We are pleased that Rice is among your college choices, and we look forward to reading your application soon.

HOW TO APPLY
To apply to Rice University, freshman applicants must use either the Common Application (www.commonapp.org) or the Universal College Application (www.universalcollegeapp.com/colleges/rice-university).

Students must choose one of these application methods. Rice does not have a preference between them. Do not submit both or mix components from the two options. Choose one application, and submit all required materials through that method.

APPLICATION DEADLINES
The application and all required supporting documentation are due by the appropriate deadline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Type</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Decision</td>
<td>Nov. 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Shepherd School of Music</td>
<td>Dec. 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Program</td>
<td>Dec. 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Decision</td>
<td>Jan. 1, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: A comprehensive application checklist (with accompanying deadlines) can be found on the last page of this document.

ELIGIBILITY
You will be considered a freshman applicant if you will complete high school by the end of this current academic year. Students enrolled in concurrent high school and college courses are considered freshmen.

Students are considered transfer applicants if they have completed high school, have earned at least twelve semester hours of college credit and have not been enrolled in high school for at least one year.

Official transcripts of all academic work undertaken are a required part of the application; therefore, students may not reduce their academic credits in order to qualify as freshman applicants.

CONFIDENTIALITY
In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, only matriculated students have access to their permanent records.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS
A complete application file to Rice University consists of the following:

- The Common Application and the Rice Writing Supplement or the Universal College Application and the Rice Supplement.
- $75 nonrefundable application fee or approved fee waiver
- Official high school transcript(s)
- Official test scores sent directly from the testing agency: Either the SAT and two SAT Subject Tests or the ACT Plus Writing Test
- School Report
- One Teacher/Instructor Evaluation
- Official Transcript and Midyear Report Form (as soon as senior midyear grades become available)
- Architecture applicants must submit a Microsoft PowerPoint portfolio of artwork
- Music applicants must submit an Audition Profile Form

Early Decision applicants must also submit:

- The Rice Early Decision Agreement
- Official high school transcripts including grades from first marking period

International applicants must also submit:

- The Rice International Student Financial Statement
- Supporting Financial Documentation
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) for students whose first language or language of instruction is not English.

APPLICATION FEE
The $75.00 application fee is due along with your application for admission. Fees must be paid online.

Students requesting a fee waiver must submit proof of a fee waiver for the SAT or ACT or eligibility for the federal school lunch program. The request must be accompanied by a letter from your school counselor. Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible for an application fee waiver.

HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS
Sixteen college preparatory credits are required, including a minimum of four years of English, three years of math, two years of the same foreign language, two years of social studies, two years of laboratory science (excluding physical science), and three additional years of college preparatory courses of the student’s choosing. Applicants to the natural sciences and engineering schools must take advanced high school math (either trigonometry, elementary analysis, or precalculus) and chemistry and physics (a second year of chemistry or biology may be substituted for physics).

Successful applicants generally have taken 20 or more college preparatory courses in high school, many at the college level.
DEPARTMENT

You are required to select Early Decision or Regular Decision when you apply. Any change in your decision plan requires immediate notification in writing to the admission office.

Early Decision applicants are required to submit an Early Decision Agreement along with their application, as well as an official high school transcript which includes grades from the first marking period.

SCHOOLS OF STUDY

All applicants must indicate an intended school of study from among the following: architecture, engineering, humanities, music, natural sciences, or social sciences.

You should apply to the school that most accurately reflects your strengths and interests. Keep in mind that the choice of school you make as an applicant does not limit the courses you can take at Rice, and transfers from one division to another are common. (Transferring into the music or architecture schools requires faculty approval.) Students admitted to The Shepherd School of Music must pursue the music program for at least one year before changing schools.

Visit http://admission.rice.edu/Academics for more information about Rice’s schools of study.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

All freshman applicants for Fall 2016 must take (a) the SAT and two SAT Subject tests in fields related to the candidate’s proposed division of study or (b) the ACT Plus Writing test. It is our policy to use the highest scores from any sitting on the SAT in order to consider each applicant’s most positive test results.

Recognizing that this policy could disadvantage those students who cannot afford repeated testing or expensive test prep coaching, we believe a comprehensive testing history provides us with the appropriate context required for making a fair judgment of what the test scores mean in a holistic admission process. We require all applicants submitting the SAT to submit all scores to Rice. The only definition of a composite score that ACT recognizes is its own definition: an ACT composite is the average of the four multiple-choice scale scores from a single administration of the exam. Therefore, it is Rice’s policy to use the highest ACT composite score in admission consideration.

If a candidate submits both an SAT and an ACT score, the committee will consider the test that best enhances the application. Rice does not require a minimum score on these tests.

Scores must be sent directly to Rice from the testing agency.
Rice’s College Board code is 6609; our ACT code is 4152.

Applicants whose first language and language of instruction is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

If you are submitting IELTS score(s), the minimum acceptable score is 7. If you are submitting TOEFL score(s), the minimum acceptable score is 600 on the paper-based test or 100 on the Internet-based test. TOEFL uses Rice’s College Board code, which is 6609.

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

Official high school/secondary school transcripts must include grades from ninth through eleventh grade as well as courses being taken in the senior year.

Transcripts must be submitted by your high school, preferably online via the Common Application or the Universal College Application, or by mail. Transcripts will not be accepted by fax or email.

HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS

Rice welcomes applications from students who have been homeschooled. To ensure that our evaluation process is fully informed, each homeschooled applicant is encouraged to provide clear, detailed documentation of his or her curriculum, assessment tools, and learning experiences. Rice requires the School Report and one Teacher Evaluation. Either the School Report or the Teacher Evaluation must be completed by someone not related to the student.

INTERVIEWS

Although an interview is not a requirement, we recommend it as an excellent opportunity to communicate your interests and questions about Rice. Interviews are offered only to (rising) high school seniors, and it is the student’s responsibility to request an interview.

Interviews are conducted on campus and off campus. The Admission Committee views on- and off-campus interviews equally in the admission review process. Interviews are subject to availability. Inability to have an interview will not negatively impact your application.

On-campus interviews:
Reservations are required for all on-campus interviews and spaces are limited. (For any student completing high school in less than four years, an on-campus interview with an admission officer is strongly recommended.)

To register for an on-campus interview, go to http://futureowls.rice.edu/futureowls/On_Campus_Interviews.asp

Off-campus interviews:
Students must submit an application for admission in order for an off-campus interview request to be fulfilled. For Early Decision applicants, your application must be submitted by November 1 and your request for an off-campus interview must be submitted by November 3. For Regular Decision applicants, your application must be submitted by December 11 and your request for an off-campus interview must be submitted by December 13.

To request an off-campus interview, go to http://futureowls.rice.edu/futureowls/Off_Campus_Interview.asp

APPLICATION STATUS

You will be notified via email how to access your Rice Admission Student Portal. The only valid notification of an admission decision is a formal communication from the Dean for Undergraduate Enrollment.

Rice University reserves the right to close your application if you are admitted under a binding Early Decision plan at another institution.
ARCHITECTURE APPLICANTS
A portfolio of creative artwork is required for all applicants to the School of Architecture. The portfolio should demonstrate creative potential and is not expected to be architectural in focus. Freehand drawings are highly recommended along with examples in various forms and media, such as: sculpture, graphic design, photography, theater set design, and so on. Mechanical drafting and/or CAD drawings are strongly discouraged with the exception of work from an architecture career discovery program (which should be included). The included work may have been a class assignment or pursued independently.

The School of Architecture does not accept CDs or DVDs. Submission is limited to a 10 MB PowerPoint presentation of up to ten pages plus cover sheet (more than one image per slide is acceptable) with .JPG, .JPEG, or .GIF images only. No image should exceed 1024x768 pixel resolution and 96 dpi. Sound and animation are not permitted. The file should be labeled with the applicant’s name (example: JohnDoe.ppt).

The preferred method of submission is directly to the Rice Admission Student Portal using the Upload Materials tool. If submission through the Student Portal is not an option, you may email it to riceapps@rice.edu.

Interviews with a member of the architecture school faculty are available (but not required) on a limited basis. Students who plan to visit the campus should contact the School of Architecture directly to schedule an interview with a faculty member at times designated by the school. Requests must be made by October 1st for Early Decision and November 1st for Regular Decision. Contact Rice University, School of Architecture-MS 50, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251-1892; telephone 713-348-4864; email: arch@rice.edu.

For more information:
http://arch.rice.edu/Admissions/Undergraduate-Admissions/

MUSIC APPLICANTS
Applicants to The Shepherd School of Music must apply and request an audition by December 1. An audition or preliminary recording is required for all performance music applicants.

To arrange appointments and obtain further details, contact Phyllis Smith, Admissions Assistant (email: pws2@rice.edu) or Geoffrey Scott, Director of Music Admissions (email: geoffrey.scott@rice.edu), Rice University, Shepherd School of Music-MS 532, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251-1892; telephone 713-348-4854.

For more information:
http://music.rice.edu/undergraduate/index.shtml

RICE UNIVERSITY/BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MEDICAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM
The Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Program allows up to 6 freshman candidates to be accepted to Rice and to Baylor College of Medicine directly from high school. This is not an accelerated medical program; it is a four-year undergraduate and four-year medical school experience. Students selected for this program may major in any discipline while at Rice. Upon graduation from Rice, students continue their education at Baylor College of Medicine.

Students interested in the Rice/Baylor Program may apply to Rice as Early or Regular Decision candidates. Early Decision applicants must commit to Rice by January 1, regardless of the Baylor decision to be made later in the spring. Early Decision applicants to Rice must submit all Rice application materials by November 1; however, the Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Application does not have to be submitted until December 1. Regular Decision candidates must submit all required Rice application materials and the Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Application by December 1. The Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Application is available on our website at http://admission.rice.edu/RiceBaylor.

All finalists for the Rice/Baylor Program are notified in March and are expected to interview at Baylor College of Medicine in April on the designated interview date. Rice/Baylor Scholars are announced by the end of April.

Students admitted to Rice but not selected for the Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Program may still apply to Baylor College of Medicine or any other medical school following their Rice undergraduate experience.
Rice admits students under a need-blind admission process and meets 100% of demonstrated financial need for admitted U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Rice also awards merit-based scholarships and offers a variety of financing strategies for families regardless of financial aid eligibility.

**MERIT-BASED AID**
Rice offers merit-based awards to Early and Regular Decision candidates whose scholastic and personal achievements distinguish them as “impact people” in our highly competitive group of admitted students. It is not necessary to file the financial aid forms to be considered for our merit awards (except for applicants to The Shepherd School of Music where both need and merit are factors in scholarship selection). Complete your admission application and you will automatically be considered for our awards based on merit.

**CALCULATING FINANCIAL NEED**
The Rice University Student Aid Calculator will provide your family with a preliminary estimate of federal, state, and institutional aid eligibility. With this estimate, your family will have a clearer picture of the funding strategies you should explore in order to cover the cost of attendance.

The Rice University Student Aid Calculator is available at [http://rice.studentaidcalculator.com](http://rice.studentaidcalculator.com)

**NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION**
A complete application for need-based financial aid consists of the following items:

1. **The College Scholarship Service (CSS) PROFILE** available on the web at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Students will complete the PROFILE online. The PROFILE number for Rice is 6609.
3. **Student and parent IRS 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ tax forms and W-2 forms** should be submitted to the College Board’s Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC). Visit [http://idoc.collegeboard.com](http://idoc.collegeboard.com) for further instructions.

Eligibility assessments are made for admitted students when all items have been received. Please submit the required items as soon as possible. The sooner you complete your financial aid file, the sooner you will have the financial information you need to accept an offer of admission.

**FOREIGN NATIONALS**
Applicants who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents are required to submit the following documentation showing their sources of financial support:

2. Appropriate supporting documentation (in English and converted to U.S. dollars)

Regardless of an international applicant’s intention to request financial aid, the applicant must submit the financial statement and supporting documentation as follows:

- International applicants who are not requesting need-based financial aid must prove ability to finance their education at Rice. Supporting materials must include official documentation (appropriate affidavits and/or scholarship awards) of resources sufficient to cover the costs of the first year of study before their files can be reviewed for admission.
- International applicants requesting need-based financial aid must provide information on their family financial status. In addition, international applicants requesting need-based financial aid must submit the CSS Profile, which can be found at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

Rice University will offer need-based financial aid to a limited number of international undergraduate applicants each year. Citizens of foreign countries who apply under Regular Decision and request need-based aid will be reviewed as a separate group. There is no financial aid available for international students applying under Early Decision.

Because the number of need-based financial aid awards will be limited, Rice will not offer admission to some international applicants who are otherwise well-qualified. We expect that the admission rate for international applicants requesting aid will be substantially lower than for those not requesting aid. Only those students who apply for and receive financial aid for their freshman year will be eligible to receive financial assistance in subsequent years.

**FOR MORE DETAILS AND INFORMATION ABOUT DEADLINES**
We strongly recommend that you review the Financing Your Rice Education brochure for more in-depth information, including:

- Financial aid application deadlines
- Estimated student budget and cost of attendance
- Merit scholarships
- Additional funding strategies

Download the Financing your Rice Education brochure - [http://futureowls.rice.edu/futureowls/FinancingYourEducation.asp](http://futureowls.rice.edu/futureowls/FinancingYourEducation.asp)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Early Decision</th>
<th>Shepherd School Of Music</th>
<th>Regular Decision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Application</td>
<td>11/1/2015</td>
<td>12/1/2015</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice Supplement</td>
<td>11/1/2015</td>
<td>12/1/2015</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75 Application Fee (or waiver request)</td>
<td>11/1/2015</td>
<td>12/1/2015</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Decision Agreement Form</td>
<td>11/1/2015</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Date to take SAT &amp; SAT Subject Tests -or- ACT Plus Writing</td>
<td>11/7/2015</td>
<td>12/5/2015</td>
<td>12/5/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Application submitted by</td>
<td>10/24/2015</td>
<td>12/12/2015</td>
<td>12/12/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request an Interview (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Midyear Report Form (transcript plus counselor form)</td>
<td>As soon as first semester grades are available</td>
<td>As soon as first semester grades are available</td>
<td>As soon as first semester grades are available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Portfolio</td>
<td>11/1/2015</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherd School Audition Profile Form</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>12/1/2015</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL or IELTS score</td>
<td>11/1/2015</td>
<td>12/1/2015</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL or IELTS score</td>
<td>11/1/2015</td>
<td>12/1/2015</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notification**

Admission decisions from Rice University | Mid-December | 4/1/2016 | 4/1/2016