As one of the first three schools to join the QuestBridge Match Program, Rice University is pleased by the prospect of getting to know you. 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 regarding application requirements is included in this document, as well as additional instructions about 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 look forward to reading your application soon.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

All QuestBridge applicants are free to apply to Rice with the QuestBridge Application and the Rice QuestBridge Application Supplement. QuestBridge participants are automatically eligible for a waiver of our $75 application fee. Those who apply to Rice with the QuestBridge Application required to submit the Rice QuestBridge Application Supplement.

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

- The QuestBridge Application (including one teacher and one counselor recommendation)
- The Rice QuestBridge Application Supplement
- Official high school transcript(s)
- Official score reports for the SAT and two SAT Subject Tests or the ACT Plus Writing test sent directly from the testing agency
- Rice QuestBridge Midyear Report Form and Official Transcript (as soon as senior midyear grades become available).

Even if you already submitted an official high school transcript and an official SAT or ACT Plus Writing score report to QuestBridge, you must now submit these items directly to Rice University in order to complete the application process.

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.

CONFIDENTIALITY

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

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Please complete and postmark the Rice QuestBridge Application Supplement by November 1 for the College Match Program and for Early Decision. January 1 is the deadline for Regular Decision consideration (see www.questbridge.org/rice-app-requirements). Applicants to The Shepherd School of Music must apply by December 1.

Note that QuestBridge students interested in applying to the Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Program must submit the Rice QuestBridge Application Supplement and the Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Application to Rice by December 1 to be considered for that program (see further instructions in this document). All materials should be sent to the Office of Admission.

DECISION PLANS

If you do not match with Rice University as a QuestBridge Scholar, but you still want your application reviewed for admission to Rice, you are required to select a decision plan on the QuestBridge Decision Plan Verification Form. Any change in your decision plan requires immediate notification in writing to the Office of Admission.

If you do not match with any of the partner colleges, we welcome your application to Rice University under one of our other decision plans, Early Decision or Regular Decision. In addition to the QuestBridge application and the Rice QuestBridge Application Supplement, you must also submit the Rice QuestBridge Decision Plan Verification Form available at http://admission.rice.edu/QuestBridge.

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.

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.
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.

MUSIC APPLICANTS

Students interested in applying to The Shepherd School of Music may only apply Regular Decision and must submit their application and request an audition by December 1. An audition or preliminary recording is required for all music performance applicants. Applicants to The Shepherd School of Music are not eligible for QuestBridge College Match or Early Decision consideration.

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

ARCHITECTURE APPLICANTS

A portfolio of creative artwork is required for all applicants to the School of Architecture. Submission is limited to a 10 MB PowerPoint presentation of up to ten slides (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). Note that submissions exceeding these specifications will not be accepted.

The portfolio should demonstrate creative potential and is not expected to be architectural in focus nor professional in quality. It may include examples of sketches, paintings, photography, models, etc. Examples of mechanical or computer drafting are strongly discouraged. 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. The School of Architecture does not accept CDs or DVDs.

Students who plan to visit the campus should contact the School of Architecture directly to schedule an interview with a faculty member. 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/

STANDARDIZED TESTING

Rice requires all first-year applicants to 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.

Applications 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 scores, 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.

RICE UNIVERSITY/BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MEDICAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The 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 normal four-year undergraduate and four-year medical school experience. Students selected for this program major in any discipline while at Rice. Upon graduation from Rice, students continue their education at Baylor College of Medicine.

Students who wish to be considered for the Rice/Baylor Program must submit the QuestBridge Application, the Rice QuestBridge Application Supplement, the Rice QuestBridge Decision Plan Verification Form, the Rice/Baylor Medical Scholars Application and all supporting documentation to Rice by December 1, 2015. The Rice/Baylor Application is available on our website at http://admission.rice.edu/RiceBaylor.

Keep in mind that applicants admitted to Rice under the Early Decision plan must commit to Rice by January 1, regardless of the Baylor decision to be made later in the spring.

All finalists for the Rice/Baylor Program, including QuestBridge matched students, 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.
For Rice’s QuestBridge Match recipients, a financial package covering full tuition, room and board, travel, personal expenses, and required fees will be awarded.

For all other students using a QuestBridge application, 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.

Visit http://financialaid.rice.edu for more information.

**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

**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. Students will complete the PROFILE online. The PROFILE number for Rice is 6609.
2. **The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** available at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Complete the form as soon as possible after January 1 (but not before). Be sure to list Rice’s FAFSA code 003604 in the College Release and Certification section.
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 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.

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

Click here to download the Financing your Rice Education brochure.