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. 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, transfer 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.

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

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.

ELIGIBILITY
Transfer admission to Rice is possible on a competitive basis for students with superior college records. To apply, candidates should have a grade point average of at least 3.20 in their most recent college work.

Students are considered transfer applicants if they have completed secondary school, have earned at least twelve semester hours of college credit and have not been enrolled in high school for at least one year. Transfer applicants should be aware that a student must complete at least four semesters of course work (60 semester hours) as a full-time student at Rice to be eligible for a bachelor’s degree.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS
Rice strongly encourages online submission of the Transfer Common Application and the Rice Writing Supplement (www.commonapp.org) or the Universal College Application and the Rice Writing Supplement (www.universalcollegeapp.com)

A complete application 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
- Final official high school transcript
- All official college transcripts
- Official test scores sent directly from the testing agency: Either the SAT or the ACT Plus Writing Test
- The College Report
- Two College Instructor Evaluations
- Music applicants must submit an audition request form

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 a copy of their Student Aid Report (SAR) to the Office of Admission with their application. Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible for an application fee waiver.

CONFIDENTIALITY
In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, matriculated students have access to their permanent records.
REAPPLICATION
All previous applicants to Rice must complete a new application to be considered for admission. The only materials that do not need to be resubmitted are SAT or ACT Plus Writing scores already on file with Rice.

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 on the Rice curriculum.

STANDARDIZED TESTING
Rice requires all undergraduate applicants to submit an SAT or ACT Plus Writing score. 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.

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

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 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.

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS
Transcripts must be submitted to Rice directly from your high school and all colleges attended by mail only. Transcripts will not be accepted by fax or email.

ARCHITECTURE APPLICANTS
Please note that the School of Architecture does not typically admit transfer students. If you have questions about admission to the School of Architecture, contact them directly at 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 submit an Audition Request Form by December 1. An audition 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 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 offers a variety of financing strategies for families regardless of financial aid eligibility.

**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**
Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply for need-based financial aid.

Candidates who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents are required to submit the International Financial Statement (showing sources of support) and 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 by the Committee on Admission.


**ADDITIONAL FINANCING STRATEGIES**
For families who do not qualify for need-based aid, we offer campus employment programs, low-interest student and parent loans, and deferred payment plans.

Please refer to http://financialaid.rice.edu for further information.