

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Eligibility for In-State Tuition and Fees Based Upon Rhode Island High School Attendance

Guidance for Students and Families

If you are a student, including an undocumented student, who currently attends or plans to attend Rhode Island College, the University of Rhode Island, or the Community College of Rhode Island, you may be eligible for an in-state tuition rate under a recent policy enacted by the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education (RIBGHE). We encourage you to review the following information.

Introduction

In September, 2011, the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education amended its tuition policy to provide eligibility for in-state tuition and fees to students, including undocumented students, based primarily upon a student's attendance at a Rhode Island high school. This change will be effective as of the fall 2012 semester.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this new policy, students, including undocumented students, must meet **ALL** of the following requirements in order to qualify for an in-state tuition and fees rate:

1. The student must have lived in Rhode Island and attended an approved Rhode Island high school for three (3) or more years, and the student must continue to live in Rhode Island; and
2. The student must have lived in Rhode Island and have attended an approved high school in the state of Rhode Island for three (3) or more years and must hold an official high school diploma (or will hold at the time of my enrollment) **OR** the student must have lived in Rhode Island for three (3) or more years and have earned a G.E.D., known officially as the Rhode Island Senior High School Equivalency Diploma; and
3. If the student is not a U.S. citizen and/or does not have lawful immigration status, he or she must file a signed affidavit with the institution stating that the student has filed an application for lawful U.S. immigration status with the federal government, **OR** will file such an application as soon as he or she is eligible to do so; and
4. The student is not, and if unemancipated his or her parent(s) does not, hold a temporary immigration classification or other immigration status within the definition of "non-immigrant alien" as described in U.S.C §1101(a)(15). (Please see the Frequently Asked Questions and attached chart for further information on this clause.)

To Apply

You will need to submit an application to be considered for in-state tuition based upon Rhode Island high school attendance, in addition to the application you submit for admission to Rhode Island College. You will need to include the items listed below unless they are already included in your admission application.

If you are applying for admission to RIC, you may submit this package at the same time you submit your RIC admission application. If you are already a student at RIC, you should submit the documents prior to the start of the semester for which you are seeking an in-state tuition rate. Applications submitted after the start of the semester will automatically be considered for in-state tuition for the next semester.

Your application package must include the following items:

- a. A completed and signed *In-State Tuition Based Upon Rhode Island High School Attendance Application* form;

- b. A signed and notarized copy of the affidavit included in this packet;
- c. Proof of your current residence in Rhode Island. Applicants are encouraged to submit several forms of proof such as a rental agreement, property tax bill, car registration, utility bill, an official piece of mail, or an ID card that lists your address;
- d. If not already included in your application for admission, an official, sealed high school transcript or transcripts documenting three years of high school attendance and successful high school graduation **OR** an official, sealed GED equivalency transcript (known officially as the RI Senior High School Equivalency Diploma Transcript); and
- e. If you have applied for legal immigration status, please submit the federal receipt of your application (Form I-797) or another document that provides proof that you or your parents have formally applied to the U.S. government for legal immigration status.

Please send or deliver your application, affidavit, and all supporting documents to:

Rhode Island College
Office of Undergraduate Admissions
600 Mt Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908

Current Rhode Island College students may send their materials to:

Rhode Island College
Records Office
600 Mt Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is classified as a non-immigrant alien?

The term “non-immigrant alien” refers to a classification in the U.S. Immigration Code that identifies certain individuals (such as employees of foreign embassies or corporations and their families) who are in the United States temporarily on a special U.S. visa for professional purposes or to fill a specialized job that otherwise cannot be filled by a U.S. citizen. Please consult the attached Visa Status chart for further information.

Why must I sign the affidavit to qualify for in-state tuition and fees based upon Rhode Island high school attendance?

The affidavit you must sign is necessary for you to prove that you live in Rhode Island, that you have attended a Rhode Island high school for at least three years and that you have graduated from a Rhode Island high school (or, if not, have obtained a Rhode Island Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED), that you have filed for U.S. immigration status (or will do so as soon as you are eligible), and that you (or if you are under the age of 18, your parents) are not in the United States as a non-immigrant alien (see explanation above).

What will happen if I fail to apply for immigration status?

The Board of Governors has decided that if an undocumented student has not filed for immigrant status within one year of becoming eligible to do so, eligibility for in-state tuition based upon high school attendance will be denied in future academic years.

When does the RIBGHE policy on in-state tuition based upon Rhode Island high school attendance take effect?

This policy will go into effect beginning September 2012 for the fall 2012 semester.

When should I begin the process of applying for in-state tuition based upon Rhode Island high school attendance?

You should include your application and affidavit for in-state tuition when you send your completed application for admission or as soon thereafter as possible.

Am I still eligible to apply for in-state tuition based upon Rhode Island high school attendance if I am already enrolled as an undergraduate student at URI, RIC or CCRI and am paying out-of-state tuition (or have paid it in the past)?

This policy goes into effect as of fall semester 2012. While you cannot apply for instate tuition retroactively, you may apply for consideration prior to the start of the fall semester 2012. Applications submitted after the start of the semester will be considered for in-state tuition based upon Rhode Island high school attendance for the next semester.

Will applying for in-state tuition based upon Rhode Island high school attendance place me or my family at any risk?

Prior to filing this application and affidavit , it is recommended that you seek legal guidance if you have any questions regarding your present immigration status; the possible legal and/or immigration ramifications that may arise from your filing of this application; and/or your execution of this Affidavit.

Whom should I contact if I have further questions?

You may obtain further information through Rhode Island College's Office of Undergraduate Admissions or Records Office.

DEFINITIONS

Unemancipated: Un-emancipated means that you are still a legal dependent of your parent or under the supervision of a court-appointed guardian.

Affidavit: An affidavit is a written declaration that is sworn to before a person legally authorized to administer an oath, such as a notary public.

Notary Public: A Notary Public is someone legally empowered to witness signatures and certify a document's validity. A Notary also records in writing sworn statements made under oath, such as an affidavit, to serve as evidence. Notaries are often found in educational institutions, banks, many places of business, or in other public places.

Paragraph (15) of subsection (a) of section 1101 of title 8 of the United States Code:

The U.S. Code is a compendium of U.S. law. Title 8, paragraph (15a) of section 1101 provides various legal definitions for the terms "immigrant" and "non-immigrant alien." Non-immigrant alien classifications under this section are listed on the attached chart.

NON-IMMIGRANT ALIEN CLASSIFICATIONS UNDER PARAGRAPH (15),

SUBSECTION (a) OF SECTION 1101 OF TITLE 8 OF U.S. CODE

VISA TYPE	NON-IMMIGRANT (TEMPORARY) VISA CATEGORIES	ELIGIBLE TO DOMICILE IN THE U.S.	ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION BASED ON SECTION 2 OF RIBGHE RESIDENCY POLICY
A-1	Ambassadors, public ministers or career diplomats and their immediate family members	Eligible	Eligible
A-2	Other accredited officials or employees of foreign governments and their immediate family members	Eligible	Eligible
A-3	Personal attendants, servants or employees and their immediate family members of A-1 and A-2 visa holders	Eligible	Eligible

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B-1	Temporary visitor for business	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
B-2	Temporary visitor for pleasure	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
C-1	Foreign travelers in transit through the United States	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
C-1D	Combined transit and crewmen visa	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
C-2	Person in transit to UN Headquarters under §11(3), (4), or (5) of the Headquarter Agreement	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
C-3	Foreign government official, members of immediate family, attendant or personal employee in transit	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
C-4	Transit without visa, see TWOV	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
D-1	Crewmember departing on same vessel of arrival	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
D-2	Crewmember departing by means other than vessel of arrival	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
E-1	Treaty traders, spouse and children	Eligible	Eligible
E-2	Treaty investors, spouse and children	Eligible	Eligible
F-1	Academic student	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
F-2	Spouse or child of F-1	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
F-3	Academic students who are Canadian or Mexican citizens who commute across the border to study full-time or part-time in the United States	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
G-1	Principal resident representative or recognized foreign member government to international organization, and members of immediate family	Eligible	Eligible
G-2	Other accredited representatives of recognized foreign member governments to international organization and their immediate family members	Eligible	Eligible
G-3	Representatives of non-recognized or non-member government to international organization and members of immediate family	Eligible	Eligible
G-4	International organization officer or employee and their immediate family	Eligible	Eligible
G-5	Attendants, servants and personal employees of G-1, G-2, G-3 or G-4 visa holders and their immediate family members	Eligible	Eligible
H-1B	Specialty occupations, DOD workers, fashion models	Eligible	Eligible
H-1C	Nurses going to work for up to three years in health professional shortage areas	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
H-2A	Temporary agricultural workers	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
H-2B	Temporary workers, skilled and unskilled	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
H-3	Trainee	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
H-4	Spouse or child of H-1, H-2 or H-3 visa holders	H-4 dependents of H-1B eligible; all other H-4 dependents not eligible	H-4 dependents of H-1B eligible; all other H-4 dependents not eligible
I	Visas for foreign media representatives	Eligible	Eligible
J-1	Visas for exchange visitors	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
J-2	Spouse or child of J-1 visa holders	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
K-1	Fiancé(e)	Eligible	Eligible
K-2	Minor child of K-1	Eligible	Eligible
K-3	Spouse of a U.S. citizen (LIFE Act)	Eligible	Eligible
K-4	Child of a K-3 (LIFE Act)	Eligible	Eligible
L-1A	Executive, managerial	Eligible	Eligible
L-1B	Specialized knowledge	Eligible	Eligible
L-2	Spouse or child of L-1	Eligible	Eligible
M-1	Vocational or other non-academic students, other than language students	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
M-2	Immediate families of M-1 visa holders	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
M-3	Vocational students who are Canadian or Mexican citizens, who commute across the border to study full-time or part-time in the U.S.	Not Eligible	Not Eligible

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N-8	Parent of alien classified as SK-3 "Special Immigrant"	Eligible	Eligible
N-9	Child of N-8, SK-1, or SK-4 "Special Immigrant"	Eligible	Eligible
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), see TN	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
NATO-1	Principal permanent representative of member state to NATO and resident members of official staff or immediate family	Eligible	Eligible
NATO-2	Other representatives of member state; dependents of member of a Force entering in accordance with the provisions of NATO Status-of-Forces agreement; members of such a Force if issued visas	Eligible	Eligible
NATO-3	Official clerical staff accompanying representative of member state to NATO or immediate member	Eligible	Eligible
NATO-4	Official of NATO other than those qualified as NATO-1 and immediate family	Eligible	Eligible
NATO-5	Expert other than NATO officials qualified under NATO-4, employed on behalf of NATO and immediate family	Eligible	Eligible
NATO-6	Members of civilian component who is either accompanying a Force entering in accordance with the provisions of the NATO Status-of-Forces agreement; attached to an allied headquarters under the protocol on the Status of International Military headquarters set up pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty; and their dependents	Eligible	Eligible
NATO-7	Attendants, servants or personal employees of NATO-1, NATO-2, NATO-3, NATO-4, NATO-5 or NATO-6, or immediate family	Eligible	Eligible
O-1	Extraordinary ability in the sciences, arts, education, business, athletics	Eligible	Eligible
O-2	Essential support staff of O-1 visa holders	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
O-3	Immediate family members of O-1 and O-2 visa holders	O-3 dependents of O-1 holders eligible; O-3 dependents of O-2 holders not eligible	O-3 dependents of O-1 holders eligible; O-3 dependents of O-2 holders not eligible
P-1	Individual or team athletes	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
P-2	Artists and entertainers in reciprocal exchange programs	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
P-3	Artists and entertainers in culturally unique programs	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
P-4	Spouse or child of P-1, P-2 or P-3	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
Q-1	International cultural-exchange visitors	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
Q-2	Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program (Walsh Visas)	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
Q-3	Spouse or child of Q-2	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
R-1	Religious workers	Eligible	Eligible
R-2	Spouse or child of R-1	Eligible	Eligible
S-5	Informant of criminal organization information	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
S-6	Informant of terrorism information	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
T-1	Victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons	Eligible	Eligible
T-2	Spouse of a T-1	Eligible	Eligible
T-3	Child of a T-1	Eligible	Eligible
T-4	Parent of a T-1 visa holder (if the child is under 21 years of age)	Eligible	Eligible
TD	Spouse or child accompanying TN	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
TN	Trade visas for Canadians and Mexicans in NAFTA	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
TPS	Temporary protected status	Eligible	Eligible
TWOV	Passenger or crew	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
U-1	Victim of certain criminal activity	Eligible	Eligible
U-2	Spouse of a U-1	Eligible	Eligible
U-3	Child of a U-1	Eligible	Eligible

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U-4	Parent of a U-1 visa holder (if the child is under 21 years of age)	Eligible	Eligible
V-1	Spouse of legal permanent resident (LPR) who is the principal beneficiary of a family-based petition (I-130) which was filed prior to December 21, 2000, and has been pending for at least three years	Eligible	Eligible
V-2	Child of legal permanent resident (LPR) who is the principal beneficiary of a family-based petition (I-130) which was filed prior to December 21, 2000, and has been pending for at least three years	Eligible	Eligible
V-3	Derivative child of a V-1 or V-2 visa holder	Eligible	Eligible

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