

Rhode Island Alternative Application for State Postsecondary Student Financial Assistance (2023-2024)

This application is exclusively for students who are unable to complete a federal financial aid application (FAFSA).

Information on this application will determine eligibility for state and institutional postsecondary student financial assistance for the 2023-2024 academic year for undergraduate students who:

- Cannot apply for federal student financial aid due to immigration status,
-AND-
- Meet conditions described in Part One of this application.

Students meeting the above criteria must submit the following information to be considered for state and institutional financial aid:

- A completed and signed Rhode Island Alternative Application for State Postsecondary Student Financial Assistance (this document).
- 2021 income and tax documentation as described in the Application.

Important facts about the Rhode Island Alternative Application for State Postsecondary Student Financial Assistance

- While the information on this application will typically be shared only with school personnel as needed to administer financial aid programs, you should note that your application, and the information you disclose in it, is deemed confidential only to the extent provided by state and federal law (including the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)), if applicable.
- You can submit your completed application to the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner in 1 of 3 ways:
 1. **Mail** a completed application to:
Aid Application
RI Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
c/o Omar Reyes
560 Jefferson Blvd
Warwick, RI 02886
 2. **Hand deliver** a completed application during business hours (8:00 am – 4:00 pm) to:
Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
c/o Omar Reyes
560 Jefferson Blvd
Warwick, RI 02886
 3. **Email** completed application to aidapplication@riopc.edu. (Note: Sending sensitive and personally identifiable information electronically carries security risks. Applicants are encouraged to encrypt or password protect any applications sent via email.)
- **Illegible or missing information will delay processing and awarding of any financial aid.** Please make sure that all relevant sections are completed. If a section does not apply to you, mark it as “N/A” or “Not Applicable.”

- If you have any questions on completing the application, please contact aidapplication@riopc.edu.

Student Identification & Contact Information:

Student ID (if you have one) : _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I.: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Social Security Number, A#, or N/A (*not applicable*): _____

Rhode Island public college or university to receive the completed application (check all that apply):

Community College of Rhode Island

Rhode Island College

University of Rhode Island

Student Citizenship:

- I am a US Citizen / eligible noncitizen (e.g., Permanent Resident): STOP! You must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at fafsa.ed.gov instead!
- I am not a citizen nor a noncitizen eligible for federal financial aid: **Continue with this application.**

Notes

- Students who may be eligible for federal student aid should fill out a FAFSA at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>. The results of the FAFSA will be used to determine eligibility for federal, state, and institutional aid.

Rhode Island state and institutional aid may be granted only to students who would be otherwise eligible for financial aid if not for their undocumented status. All students must show financial need and be enrolled in a Title IV aid-eligible program to receive institutional aid.

Part One: Affidavit of Eligibility

ALL student applicants must complete this section. These are the conditions under which students may apply for Rhode Island state and institutional financial aid for the 2023-2024 school year.

Note that students will have to submit a separate affidavit to their institution, along with required documents as proof, to demonstrate their eligibility for in-state tuition and fees.

I, the undersigned under oath, depose and say as follows:

Check the statements below if you are a student applying for fall 2023 aid.

- I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein, which are all true and correct; and
- I currently live in the state of Rhode Island.
- I have lived in Rhode Island for three (3) or more years, have attended an approved high school in the state of Rhode Island for three (3) or more years, and I hold an official high school diploma (or will hold at the time of my enrollment) OR that I have lived in Rhode Island for three (3) or more years and have earned a GED (senior high school equivalency diploma from the state of Rhode Island), or will have earned one by the time of my enrollment.
- I have filed an application for lawful United States of America immigration status, evidence of which I have attached hereto and incorporated herein, OR that I will file an application for lawful immigration status as soon as I become eligible to do so. I understand that my failure to file an application for lawful immigration status as soon as I become eligible to do so will result in a forfeiture of in-state tuition rates for me in the future.
- I do not, and if I am un-emancipated my 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).

Part Two: Student Educational History and Plans

ALL students must complete this section.

About High School:

What will your high school completion status be as of the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year?

<input type="checkbox"/> High school diploma	<input type="checkbox"/> Homeschooled
<input type="checkbox"/> GED certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> None of the above	

From which Rhode Island high school did you graduate? _____

City/Town of high school: _____

Dates of attendance at above school: _____

About College/University:

What will your grade level be when you begin the 2023-2024 school year? (check one below)

Undergraduate = Associates, Bachelors, and many certificate programs	Graduate = Masters, Doctorate, and other post-baccalaureate programs
<input type="checkbox"/> First year, never attended college before	<input type="checkbox"/> First year Graduate / Professional
<input type="checkbox"/> First year, attended college before	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Graduate / Professional
<input type="checkbox"/> Second year undergraduate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Third year undergraduate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fourth year undergraduate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fifth year undergraduate	

What degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin the 2023-2024 school year?
(check one below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate or diploma program	<input type="checkbox"/> First Bachelor's degree
<input type="checkbox"/> Associates degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Second Bachelor's degree
	<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate / Professional degree
<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):

Will you already have your first bachelor's degree before you begin the 2022-2023 school year? Yes / No (circle one)

Part Three: Student Personal Information

All students must complete this section.

Are you female or male? (circle one) Female Male

Student Marital Status: (circle one)

Single Married Divorced / Separated Widowed

Student Living Arrangements: (circle one)

Off-Campus On-Campus With Parents Other: _____
(specify)

Dependency Questions for Student:

(circle answers)

Were you born before January 1, 2000?	Yes / No
As of today, are you, the student, married? (Answer yes if you are separated but not divorced)	Yes / No
At the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, will you be working on a Masters or Doctorate degree (e.g., MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, Graduate-level certificate)?	Yes / No
Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? (not National Guard)	Yes / No
Are you a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard)?	Yes / No
Do you now have, or will you have children who will receive more than half their financial support from you through June 30, 2024?	Yes / No
Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who will receive more than half their financial support from you through June 30, 2024?	Yes / No
At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent/ ward of the court?	Yes / No
As determined by a court, are you or were you an emancipated minor?	Yes / No
Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?	Yes / No
At any time on or after July 1, 2022, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?	Yes / No
At any time on or after July 1, 2022, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?	Yes / No
At any time on or after July 1, 2022, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?	Yes / No

If you answered “**yes**” to any of the above questions, **skip to Part Six**. You are considered Independent for financial aid purposes and should NOT fill out parent information sections. **Complete Parts Six, Seven, and Eight.**

If you answered “**no**” to all of the above questions, **continue on the next page**. You are considered a Dependent student for financial aid purposes and must report parent information. **Complete Parts Four, Five, Seven, and Eight.**

Part Four: Parent Personal and Household Information (if applicable)

IMPORTANT: This section **must** be completed when students are considered Dependent for financial aid purposes. Do not fill out Parts Four and Five if the student answered “yes” to any of the Dependency Questions in Part Three. If you have questions about whether or not to include parent information, contact the Financial Aid Office at your school.

Parents’ Marital Status: (circle one)

Single Married Divorced / Separated* Unmarried & biological / adoptive
parents living together Widowed

*If student’s parents are separated / divorced, complete this section about the parent with whom the student resides more.

Parent 1 Personal Information:

Last Name: _____ First Initial: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Address State: _____
SSN or ITIN (if available): _____

Parent 2 (can be stepparent):

Last Name: _____ First Initial: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Address State: _____
SSN or ITIN (if available): _____

Parent(s)’ Household information:

In the table on the following page, list the people in the student’s parent(s)’ household. Include:

- Student (yourself). List first.
- Parent(s) (including a stepparent) even if the student does not live with the parents.
- Parent(s)’ other children if the parent(s) will:
 - Provide more than half of their support from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, –OR–
 - Children who could not answer “yes” to any of the Dependency questions in Part Two.

Include children who meet either of these standards, even if they do not live with parent(s).

- Other people if they now live with the parent(s) and the parent(s) provide more than half of their support and will continue to provide more than half of their support through June 30, 2024

College Information: Indicate if any household member is, or will be, enrolled at least half time (6 credits or more) in a degree, diploma, or certificate program at an eligible public postsecondary educational institution any time between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2023.

Student ID: _____

Part Four: Parent Personal and Household Information (continued)

IMPORTANT: This section **must** be completed when students are considered Dependent for financial aid purposes. Do not fill out Parts Four and Five if the student answered “yes” to any of the Dependency Questions in Part Three. If you have questions about whether or not to include parent information, contact the Financial Aid Office at your school.

Dependent Students: Complete the following table to include all people in your parent(s)’ household. Refer to the instructions on the previous page.

Name	Age	Relationship to Student	Will be Enrolled at Least Half Time in College
Missy Jones (example)	18	Mother	Yes / No
		Self (student)	Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No
			Yes / No

Additional documentation may be required.

If more space is needed, include an additional page with the student’s name and Student ID # at the top.

Dependent Students: Check if anyone in your parents’ household received benefits from any of the state / federal programs below in 2021 or 2022. Check all programs that apply. Answering this question will not reduce your aid eligibility.

<input type="checkbox"/> Free or Reduced Price School Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	

Part Five: Parent Financial Information (if applicable)

IMPORTANT: This section **must** be completed when students are considered Dependent for financial aid purposes. Do not fill out Parts Four and Five if the student answered “yes” to any of the Dependency Questions in Part Three. If you have questions about whether or not to include parent information, contact the Financial Aid Office at your school.

Dependent Students’ Parent Income Information:

Dependent Students: Please report the amount your parent(s) earned from working in 2021.

	Parent 1	Parent 2 (may be stepparent)
Total 2021 Income from Work		

Dependent Students: For the tax year 2021, have your parents completed their IRS income tax return or another tax return? (Check one box below and include supporting documentation. Go to <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript> to obtain an IRS Tax Return Transcript or Verification of Non-filing Letter.)

- Yes** - My parents have already filed their 2021 tax return.
 - I am including a copy of my parents’ **2021 IRS Tax Return Transcript** or other official documentation.
- No** - My parents are not going to file a 2021 tax return, and are not required to file a 2021 tax return, so I am completing the section below:
 - Do parents have **2021 IRS W-2 forms**? (circle answer) Yes / No
 - If IRS forms W-2 or 1099 exist, I am including copies of those forms.
 - If my parents have an SSN or ITIN, I am also including my parents’ 2021 **Verification of Non-filing Letter**.

Note: Applicants whose parents are required to file an income tax return (i.e., have earnings above the filing threshold) must demonstrate that they did file in order to complete this form.

Dependent Students: If your parents had untaxed income that was not reported in the boxes above, complete the section below.

Type of Untaxed Income (e.g., child support received)	2021 Amount
Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans paid directly or withheld from earnings (includes 401k, 403b, IRA deductions, and payments to SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans)	
Child support received	
Tax exempt interest income	
Untaxed IRA distributions and pensions	
Housing, food, and living allowances paid to parents who are in the military, clergy, and other professions	
Veterans non-educational benefits	
Other untaxed income (includes workers compensation and disability benefits)	

Part Five: Parent Financial Information (continued)

IMPORTANT: This section **must** be completed when students are considered Dependent for financial aid purposes. Do not fill out Parts Four and Five if the student answered “yes” to any of the Dependency Questions in Part Three. If you have questions about whether or not to include parent information, contact the Financial Aid Office at your school.

Dependent Students: If your parents had any of the following income, complete the section below:

Type	2021Amount
Child support paid by parent per divorce, separation, or other legal requirement <i>(ONLY for children <u>not</u> living in the parents' household)</i>	
Taxable combat pay or special combat pay	
Taxable scholarships & grants received by the parent(s) <u>and reported to the IRS as income</u> <i>(parents were students to receive these funds)</i>	
Parent(s)' taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, need-based fellowships / assistantships, and co-op education programs <i>(parents were students to receive these funds)</i>	

Dependent Students' Parent Asset Information:

As of today, indicate your parent(s)' financial assets in the section below:

Type of Parent Asset	Today's Value
Parent(s)' total cash, savings, and checking account balances	
Total <u>net</u> worth of parent(s)' investments, including real estate <i>(not including the home in which your parents live)</i>	
Total <u>net</u> worth of parent(s)' businesses and investment farms <i>(not including family farm / family business with 100 or fewer employees - full-time equivalent)</i>	

Part Six: Independent Student Household Information

Important: Complete Part Six if the student answered “yes” to any of the Dependency questions in Part Three and therefore is considered Independent for financial aid purposes. Do NOT complete this section if the student is considered Dependent for financial aid purposes and submitted parent information in Parts Four and Five of this application.

Independent Student’s Household information:

In the table below, list the people in the student’s household. Include:

- Student (list first)
- Student’s spouse, if married.
- Student’s or spouse’s children if the student or spouse will provide more than half of their support from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024 even if the child does not live with the student.
- Other people if they now live with the student, and the student or spouse provide more than half of their support and will continue to provide more than half of their support through June 30, 2024.

College Information: Indicate if any household member is, or will be, enrolled at least half time (6 credits or more) in a degree, diploma, or certificate program at an eligible postsecondary educational institution any time between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024

Name	Age	Relationship to Student	Will be Enrolled at Least Half Time in College
Markie Jones (example)	3	son	Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
		Self (student)	Yes / <input type="radio"/> No
			Yes / <input type="radio"/> No
			Yes / <input type="radio"/> No
			Yes / <input type="radio"/> No
			Yes / <input type="radio"/> No
			Yes / <input type="radio"/> No

Additional documentation may be required.

If more space is needed, include an additional page with the student’s name and Student ID # at the top.

Part Six: Independent Student Household Information (continued)

Important: Complete Part Six if the student answered “yes” to any of the Dependency questions in Part Three and therefore is considered Independent for financial aid purposes. Do NOT complete this section if the student is considered Dependent for financial aid purposes and submitted parent information in Parts Four and Five of this application.

Independent Students: Check if anyone in your household received benefits from any of the state / federal programs below in 2021 or 2022 Check all programs that apply. Answering this question will not reduce your aid eligibility.

<input type="checkbox"/> Free or Reduced Price School Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	

Part Seven: Student Financial Information

ALL students must complete this section.

Student Income Information:

All Students: Please report the amount you (and your spouse, if married) earned from working in 2021:

	Student	Spouse (if student is married)
Total 2021 Income from Work		

All Students: For the tax year 2021, have you, the student (and spouse if married), completed an IRS income tax return or another tax return? (Check one box below and include supporting documentation. *Go to <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript> to obtain an IRS Tax Return Transcript or Verification of Non-filing Letter.*)

- Yes – I (and my spouse, if married) have already filed a 2021 tax return.
 - I am including a copy of my **2021 IRS Tax Return Transcript** (and my spouse’s, if I am married) or other official documentation.
- No – I (and my spouse if I am married) am not going to file and am not required to file a 2021 tax return.
 - Do you (and/or your spouse, if married) have **2021 IRS W-2 forms**? (circle answer) Yes / No
 - If IRS forms W-2 or 1099 exist, I am including copies of those forms.
 - If I am an Independent student, and I (or my spouse) have an SSN or ITIN, I am also including my/our **2021 Verification of Non-filing Letter**.

Note: Applicants who are required to file an income tax return (i.e., have earnings above the filing threshold) must file in order to complete this form.

All Students: If you (and your spouse, if married) had “untaxed income” in 2021 that was not reported in the boxes above, complete the section below.

Type of Untaxed Income (e.g., child support received)	2021 Amount
Money received or bills paid on your behalf by another person (not including your parents if you are considered Dependent for financial aid purposes)	
Payments to tax-deferred pension and retirement savings plans paid directly or withheld from earnings (includes 401k, 403b, IRA deductions, and payments to SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans)	
Child support received	
Tax exempt interest income	
Untaxed IRA distributions and pensions	
Housing, food, and living allowances paid to parents who are in the military, clergy, and other professions	
Veterans non-educational benefits	
Other untaxed income (includes workers compensation and disability benefits)	

Part Seven: Student Financial Information (continued)

ALL students must complete this section.

All Students: If you (or your spouse, if married) had any of the following in 2021, complete the section below:

Type	2021 Amount
Child support paid by parent per divorce, separation, or other legal requirement (ONLY for children <u>not</u> living in the student’s household)	
Taxable combat pay or special combat pay	
Taxable scholarships & grants received by the student (and spouse, if married) and reported to the IRS as income	
Student (and spouse’s) taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, need-based fellowships / assistantships, and co-op education programs	

Student’s Asset Information:

All Students: As of today, indicate your financial assets (and your spouse’s, if married) in the section below:

Type of Student Asset	Today’s Value
Student’s (and spouse’s, if married) total cash, savings, and checking account balances	

Total <u>net</u> worth of student's (and spouse's, if married) investments, including real estate <i>(not including the home in which you live)</i>	
Total <u>net</u> worth of student's (and spouse's, if married) businesses and investment farms <i>(not including family farm/ family business with 100 or fewer employees - full-time equivalent)</i>	

Part Eight: Certification and Signatures

Each person signing this application certifies that all of the information reported on it is complete and correct, and that the statements set out in the Affidavit in Section One are true and accurate and were made under oath.

Willful falsification of information in this application and/or related documentation will have consequences including, but not limited to, cancellation of aid and reporting said conduct violation to college administration.

Giving false or misleading information on this application could subject the applicant to penalties as provided by law.

Student's Signature (Mandatory)

Date

Parent's Signature (Mandatory if student is considered Dependent)

Date

Spouse's Signature (Optional, if student is married)

Date