

Rhode Island Alternative Application for State Postsecondary Student Financial Assistance (2025-2026)

This application is exclusively for 2025-2026 undergraduate students applying to CCRI, RIC and/or URI who cannot apply for federal student financial aid (FAFSA) due to immigration status. This application is for state and institutional aid in Rhode Island.

ALL DEPENDENT STUDENTS COMPLETE PARTS 1-3 AND 5-7 (Skip Part 4). ALL INDEPENDENT STUDENTS COMPLETE PARTS 1-4 AND 6-7 (Skip Part 5).

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).

- Answer the questions accurately.
- See the attached Directions for information about specific questions.
- Each school that you select will request further verification of the information you provide.
- 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, your parent(s) (if you are a dependent student) and your spouse (if you are married) filed tax returns send copies to our secure email: aidapplication@riopc.edu.
- If you have not yet filed taxes, you may submit this application using estimated tax information and then correct that information after you file your return to meet college deadlines.
- Initial the affidavit and sign the application – missing signatures will delay your application
- Submit required documents as early as possible - college deadlines may vary.
- Check your email, text, and phone messages regularly. You will be contacted if there is missing information or if we have questions.

To submit your application electronically

1. If possible, save your files with your first initial and last name in the file name
2. Try to use an email account that you will have access to in case we respond to you
3. Attach your electronic application and financial documents to an email message
4. Email these documents to our secure email at aidapplication@riopc.edu

You may also send your application materials to:

Aid Application
RI Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
80 Washington Street, Second Floor
Providence, RI 02903

When we determine your application is ready for the selected schools to review, we will send your information to them. Once the college(s) receive your application for enrollment, they will process your financial aid award and contact you.

We are here to help! If you have any questions on completing the application, please contact aidapplication@riopc.edu.

PART I. ALL STUDENTS

1. Student Contact Information – PRINT CLEARLY

Name as it appears on a government/school ID _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Date of Birth _____

Social Security Number (or NA) _____

ITINS # (or NA) _____

2. Student Citizenship-RI state and institutional aid may be granted only to students who would be otherwise eligible for financial aid if not for their undocumented status. Select one.

_____ I am a US Citizen or eligible non-citizen. **STOP!** You must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at studentaid.gov. The results of the FAFSA will determine your eligibility for federal, state and institutional aid.

_____ I am not a citizen or eligible non-citizen for federal financial aid. Continue with this application for state and institutional aid.

3. Rhode Island college(s) or university(ies) to receive completed application (check all that you intend to apply to or are returning to).

_____ Community College of Rhode Island

_____ Rhode Island College

_____ University of Rhode Island

4. At the start of the 2025-2026 academic year, what will be your grade level in college? (Select one)

_____ First Year (Freshman- includes students who took college courses during high school)

_____ Continuing Undergraduate Student (sophomore, junior, or senior)

_____ Graduate or Professional Studies

5. List all the Rhode Island high schools that you attended, the years you attended, and which high school you did or will graduate from:

Name of RI High School	Year began	Year finished	Graduated? Yes/No

PART II - Affidavit of Eligibility – ALL STUDENTS

There are conditions under which students may apply for Rhode Island state and institutional financial aid. 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. If you do not know if you are a dependent or independent student, complete the worksheet in the next part and then return to this part.

Initial each statement below to attest that you meet each requirement.

If you cannot attest that you meet a requirement, contact the financial aid advisor at the institution(s) that you are applying to for more information. If you submit this application without initialing all of the below, your application will be delayed.

_____ I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein, which are all true and correct;

_____ 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, OR I am a dependent student whose primary parent(s) is legally authorized by the Department of Homeland security to reside in the United States under any status and has lived in Rhode Island for one (1) year or more;

_____ I hold an official Rhode Island high school diploma (or will hold one at the time of my enrollment) OR that I 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; and

_____ 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 describe in U.S. C Section 1101 (a) (15).

PART III – Dependent or Independent Student Determination Worksheet –ALL STUDENTS

Circle One

6. Where you born before January 2002?	Yes	No
7. At the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year, will you be working on a Masters or Doctorate degree (e.g. MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, or Graduate-level certificate)?	Yes	No
8. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? (Not the National Guard)?	Yes	No
9. Are you a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard)?	Yes	No
10. Do you now have, or will you have, children who will receive more than half their financial support from you through June 30, 2026?	Yes	No
11. 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, 2026?	Yes	No
12. 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
13. As determined by a court, are you or were you an emancipated minor?	Yes	No
14. Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by the court in your legal state of residence? Mark 'No' if your parents have legal guardianship but you do not live with them.	Yes	No
15. At any time on or after July 1, 2023, were you unaccompanied and either (1) homeless or (2) self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? If you answered 'Yes' to the above question, did any of the following entities determine you were homeless or at risk of being homeless? ___ Director or designee of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center, or other program serving those experiencing homelessness. ___ High school or school district homeless liaison or designee ___ Director or designee of a project supported by a federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant ___ Financial aid administrator (FAA) ___ None of the above (Speak to the financial aid office for more information)	Yes	No
16. Do unusual circumstances prevent you from contacting your parent(s) or would contacting your parent(s) pose a risk to you? You may be experiencing unusual circumstances if you: a. Left home due to an abusive or threatening environment b. Were abandoned by or estranged from your parents; c. Are separated from your parents due to being a refugee or asylee, or your parents were forced to flee or leave their home due to armed conflict, violence, human rights violations or natural or human-made disasters; d. Are a victim of human trafficking; or e. Are otherwise unable to contact or locate your parents? If your circumstances resulted in having an unsafe, unstable place to live, you may be considered homeless and should review the answer to the question above.	Yes	No

If you answered '**YES**' to any of the above questions above, you are considered an **INDEPENDENT** student for financial aid purposes. **SKIP** the Parent Information section of this application but complete all student sections.

If you answered '**NO**' to all of the above questions you are considered a **DEPENDENT** student for financial aid purposes. The Parent Information section of this application **MUST** be completed but **SKIP** the Independent Student section.

PART IV: Independent Student Household Information

Skip this part if you are a dependent student, this part is required of all independent students

17. As of today, you are (select one)

- Single
- Married
- Legally Divorced/Separated
- Unmarried and living together
- Widowed

18. If married or remarried, enter your spouse's name as it appears on any form of government issued ID.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

19. How many people live in your household? Include yourself (the student), your spouse (if married), your dependent children (even if they live apart because of college enrollment), and other people living with you now. Include these dependent children and other people only if you will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. # in household _____.

20. How many people in your household will be in college? Include yourself (the student) and other people in your household who will attend college at least half-time (six credits) between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. # in household in college _____.

21. Government benefits received by you. At any time during 2023 or 2024, did **you or anyone in your household** receive benefits from any of the following programs? Select all that apply or None of these apply.

- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- Federal Housing Assistance
- Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/WIC)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- None of these apply

PART V. Parent Personal and Household Information
Required for All Dependent Students- Skip this part if you are an independent student

22. As of today, what is your parent's marital status (select one).

- Single
- Married
- Legally Divorced/Separated
- Unmarried and living together
- Widowed

23. **Parent 1 Personal Information** (If your parents are legally divorced or separated, complete the remainder of this part about the parent who provides the most financial support to the student).

Parent 1 First Name _____ Parent 1 Last Name _____

Parent 1 Address _____

Parent 1 Phone Number _____

Parent 1 Email _____

Parent 1 Date of Birth _____ Parent 1 SSN/ITINS _____

24. **Parent 2 Personal Information** (If Parent 1 is remarried, fill out this question for the step-parent).

Parent 2 First Name _____ Parent 2 Last Name _____

Parent 2 Address _____

Parent 2 Phone Number _____

Parent 2 Email _____

Parent 2 Date of Birth _____ Parent 2 SSN/ITINS _____

25. How many people live in your parent's household? Include your parent (and their spouse, if remarried), yourself (the student), your spouse (if married), your parent's dependent children (even if they live apart because of college enrollment), and other people living with your parent(s) now. Include these dependent children and other people only if your parents will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026.

in household _____.

26. How many people in your household will be in college? Include yourself (the student) and other people in your parent's household who will attend college at least half-time (six credits) between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026. Do not include your parent(s).

in household in college _____.

27. Government benefits received by your parent(s). At any time during 2023 or 2024, did **your parent(s) or anyone in their household** receive benefits from any of the following programs? Select all that apply or None of these apply.

- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- Federal Housing Assistance
- Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/WIC)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- None of these apply

Parent 1 Financial Information:

28. Parent 1 Tax filing status. Did or will Parent 1 file a 2023 IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR or other tax return?

- Yes, send a copy of your parent(s)' tax return to aidapplication@riopc.edu
- No

29. If Parent 1 did not or will not file taxes, which situation best applies for 2023

- Parent 1 filed or will file a tax return with Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory
- Parent 1 filed or will file a foreign tax return.
- Parent 1 either earned income in a foreign country in 2023 but did not and will not file a foreign tax return, OR your parent worked for an international organization that was not required to report income on any tax return. Such international organizations include, for example, the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund.
- Parent 1, even though they earned income in the U.S., did not and will not file a U.S. tax return because their income was below the tax filing threshold.
- Parent 1 did not and will not file a U.S. tax return for reasons other than low income.

30. If Parent 1 will not be filing 2023 tax return, did they receive W-2s or 1099s from any employer? If so, copies of these form will be submitted.

- Yes, send a copy of your parent(s) W2s/1099s to aidapplication@riopc.edu
- No

Parent 2 Financial Information:

31. Parent 2 Tax filing status. Did or will Parent 2 file a 2023 IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR or other tax return?

- Yes, send a copy of your parent(s)' tax return to aidapplication@riopc.edu
- No

32. If Parent 2 did not or will not file taxes, which situation best applies for 2023
- Parent 2 filed or will file a tax return with Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory
- Parent 2 filed or will file a foreign tax return.
- Parent 2 either earned income in a foreign country in 2023 but did not and will not file a foreign tax return, OR your parent worked for an international organization that was not required to report income on any tax return. Such international organizations include, for example, the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund.
- Parent 2, even though they earned income in the U.S., did not and will not file a U.S. tax return because their income was below the tax filing threshold.
- Parent 2 did not and will not file a U.S. tax return for reasons other than low income.
- Parent 2 did not and will not file any tax return because they did not earn any income.

33. If Parent 2 will not be filing 2023 tax return, did they receive W-2 or 1099 from any employer? If so, copies of these form will be submitted.
- Yes, send a copy of your parent(s)' W2s/1099s to aidapplication@riopc.edu
- No

34. Parent(s) total income from work for 2023 \$ _____

35. Parent(s) and Parent's Spouse's Assets. If the student's parents are married, remarried, or unmarried and both legal parents are living together, enter the combined amount they received.

Current total of cash, savings and checking accounts (do not include financial aid received)	\$
Child Support Received in 2023	\$
Current net worth of investments, including real estate, but not including the parents' primary legal residence. Net worth is the value minus the debts owed against them	\$
Current net worth of businesses and investment farms but not the farm if it is a primary residence.	\$

PART VI: Student Income Information- Required for ALL applicants

36. Student total income from work for 2023 \$ _____
37. Student Tax filing status. Did or will you file a 2023 IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR or other tax return?
____ Yes, send a copy of your parent(s)' tax return to aidapplication@riopc.edu
____ No
38. If you did not or will not file taxes, which situation best applies for 2023
____ I filed or will file a tax return with Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory
____ I filed or will file a foreign tax return.
____ I either earned income in a foreign country in 2023 but did not and will not file a foreign tax return, OR I worked for an international organization that was not required to report income on any tax return. Such international organizations include, for example, the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund.
____ I, even though I earned income in the U.S., did not and will not file a U.S. tax return because my income was below the tax filing threshold.
____ I did not and will not file a U.S. tax return for reasons other than low income.
39. If you will not be filing 2023 tax return, did you receive W-2s or 1099s from any employer? If so, copies of these form will be submitted.
____ Yes, send a copy of your W2s/1099s to aidapplication@riopc.edu
____ No
40. Student spouse, if married, total income from work for 2023. \$ _____
41. Student Spouse Tax filing status. Did or will your spouse, if married, file a 2023 IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR or other tax return?
____ Yes, send a copy of your parent(s)' tax return to aidapplication@riopc.edu
____ No
42. If you did not or will not file taxes, which situation best applies for 2023
____ They filed or will file a tax return with Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory
____ They filed or will file a foreign tax return.
____ They either earned income in a foreign country in 2023 but did not and will not file a foreign tax return, OR they worked for an international organization that was not required to report income on any tax return. Such international organizations include, for example, the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund.
____ They, even though they earned income in the U.S., did not and will not file a U.S. tax return because their income was below the tax filing threshold.
____ They did not and will not file a U.S. tax return for reasons other than low income.
43. If your spouse will not be filing 2023 tax return, did they receive W-2s or 1099s from any employer? If so, copies of these form will be submitted.
____ Yes, send a copy of your spouse's W2s/1099s to aidapplication@riopc.edu
____ No

44. Student and Student Spouse's Assets. If the student is married, remarried, or unmarried and living together, enter the combined amount they received.

Current total of cash, savings and checking accounts (do not include financial aid received)	\$
Child Support Received in 2023	\$
Current net worth of investments, including real estate, but not including the parents' primary legal residence. Net worth is the value minus the debts owed against them	\$
Current net worth of businesses and investment farms but not the farm if it is a primary residence.	\$

PART VII: 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 are 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.

You agree, if asked, to provide information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form. This information may include U.S. or state income tax forms that you filed or are required to file. Also you certify that you understand that the State of Rhode Island has the authority to verify information reported on this application with the Internal Revenue Service.

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 are true.

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury that the information I have provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that that this information will be used to determine my eligibility for the Rhode Island state tuition aid. I further understand that if any of the information is found to be false, I will be liable for payment of all nonresident tuition charges from which I was exempted and may be subject to disciplinary action by the college or university.

Student signature

Date

Parent signature, if the student is a dependent

Date

Spouse signature, if student is married

Date

ADDITIONAL DIRECTIONS

Question 1. A valid Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer ID Number (ITIN) in the student section are optional fields and can be left blank if you do not have one. If you have a Social Security Number, please make sure you provide the number as it appears on your Social Security card. If you do not have a Social Security Number but have an ITIN, enter it in this field. Leaving this question blank will not impact your eligibility for state aid. Do not enter your student ID number.

Question 2. Who is eligible to submit a FAFSA. You must submit the FAFSA if:

1. You are a United States Citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident, or
2. You are an eligible non-citizen with an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following status categories:

- Refugee
- Asylum Granted
- Cuban-Haitian Entrant
- Conditional Entrant (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
- Victims of Human trafficking, T-Visa holder (T-2, T-3, or T-4, etc.) or valid certification or eligibility letter from the Department of Health and Human Services Parolees (must be paroled for at least one year with evidence from USCIS that you are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and intend to become a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident)
- A “qualified” Battered Immigrant
- Citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau

Question 4. Students in Graduate and Professional Studies are not eligible for state financial aid, yet this application may be used to apply for institutional aid. Please check with the financial aid officer at your chosen institution(s) for more information.

Part II Temporary Immigration Classification means you hold a valid non-immigrant visa (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, TN, TD, V, and NATO). Holders of U-Visas, and those with TPS must fill out Rhode Island Alternative Application for State Postsecondary Student Financial Assistance.