

Guide to Computing at RISD Transfer Students 2006–2007

Congratulations on your acceptance to RISD from the Office of Information Technology!

Computers are an integral part of the RISD experience. RISD's campus-wide network provides high-speed data access to academic and administrative resources. As a student you will use computers for art and design; e-mail and Internet access; file and print services; writing papers; searching the library catalog; and for specialized project-oriented work in individual departments. The RISD Residential Network provides each student with a wired connection to the College's high-speed network from his/her dorm room. Wireless network access is available in many locations on campus including most academic buildings, the Library and Dining Hall.

Is there a computer requirement at RISD?

While close to 400 computers are available across campus for student use, most students find having their own computer more convenient than relying on public and departmental computers. Although RISD does not require that every student own a computer, there are mandatory laptop programs in several departments.

Departments currently participating in Academic Laptop Programs are Industrial Design, Graphic Design, Photography, Furniture Design, Interior Architecture, and Architecture. Students declaring these majors will be required to purchase a department-specified laptop computer, software applications, upgrades, and insurance through the college as stated in the "RISD Laptop Program Policy."

Laptop Program costs will vary depending on individual department requirements. Multiple payment schedules for program laptops are available to matriculated RISD students. You will receive detailed 2006–2007 Laptop Program information from your academic department. Please contact RISD's Laptop Program Manager, Erik Quimby, equimby@risd.edu or call (401) 454-6798 with additional inquiries.

E-mail

E-mail accounts are provided for all full-time RISD students. Accounts are created for new students within two weeks after the Admissions Office receives your matriculation fee. RISD supports the GroupWise e-mail application, which is a web-based program. The GroupWise web interface is accessible with a web browser from any computer that is connected to the Internet on or off campus. See the enclosed document "*Getting Started with RISD E-mail*" for login instructions.

Network Account + File Folder

Students are assigned network accounts and a 100 MB personal file folder on RISD's Academic_03 server for storing and backing-up files, and publishing web pages. Your network username and password is the same as your e-mail username and password.

Virus Protection

RISD provides students with Symantec Anti-virus software for Windows and Macintosh computers free of charge.

WebAdvisor

WebAdvisor is an easy-to-use Web interface that allows students to access information in the RISD administrative database such as grades, transcripts, class schedules, and financial aid and account profiles. Access to your confidential information is controlled through the use of a username and password, which will be sent to your RISD GroupWise e-mail account. Your Web Advisor password is randomly generated to protect your personal information and will be different from your e-mail/network password.

Standard Computer Configurations

The current standard computer configurations in RISD's computer labs are:

Platform	Standard Configurations
Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pentium IV▪ 120 GB Hard Drive▪ 1.0 GB RAM▪ Windows XP▪ DVD-CDRW
Macintosh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ G5▪ 60 - 120 GB Hard Drive▪ 1.0 GB RAM▪ OS X version 10.4 or higher▪ DVDRW-CDRW

Printing

Black and white and color laser printing is available in most computer labs and departments. Large format printers and plotters are located in departments where appropriate to the discipline. RISD utilizes a pay-for-print accounting system, risdPRINTS<ON CUE>, to manage the cost and waste of printing. High-resolution color laser proofs, large format output, specialty papers, and color correction services are available at (risd)prints, a partnership between RISD and professional printers, Concept Link, LTD.

Student Computing Services (SCS)

Student Computing Services is the first stop for students with computer related questions. Student Computing Consultants provide walk-in, telephone, and e-mail support for a variety of RISD supported technology services including RISD network configurations, installation of supported software, and RISD e-mail support. Student Computing Services are available in the Advanced Media Center (AMC Lab) on the second floor of the Design Center and in the Homer Lab in Homer Hall.

Computing Help Desk

The Computing Help Desk provides RISD students, faculty, and staff with telephone, e-mail, web-based, and walk-in technical support. Help Desk specialists assist users with questions, problems, and requests for standard software and hardware, e-mail, voicemail, local and network printing, the RISD network, resetting passwords, and more. They also write and distribute documentation, and keep the RISD community informed about system maintenance and upgrades.

Contact the Computing Help Desk at (401) 454-6106, or come to 20 Washington Place, first floor, right wing. For additional information about computing services at RISD visit the Computing page on the RISD Intranet: <http://intranet.risd.edu>.