

Hello,

We're excited to welcome you to RISD this fall! Student Financial Services (SFS) is here to support you and your family in managing the financial aspects of your education. Please review the following key information regarding student accounts and financial aid for the 2026 - 2027 academic year.

Student Accounts

Check out our website: sfs.risd.edu/student-accounts

My Finances Dashboard (Workday)

This is the main hub for Student Financial Services. Use it to:

- View and manage financial aid.
- Review account activity and statements.
- Make payments.
- Complete required financial tasks

For detailed instructions on how to utilize the My Finances Dashboard click [here](#).

Give Access to Parents/Guardians - Third Party Users

Please consider providing a parent(s) and/or guardian permission to see your student account and financial information in Workday. This includes reminders about the bill due dates and allows us to communicate with your third-party users. Instructions are [here](#).

Payments

- Fall 2026 charges (tuition, fees, room & board, health insurance) will be posted and the bill will be sent to students and third party users via email on **Friday, July 10, 2026**.
- You will receive a notification of charges by email to your RISD email account.
- **Payment due for 26/27: August 8, 2026.**
- Student accounts will include all financialized financial aid including scholarships, grants, and loans.
- Make payments online through My Finances → "Make a Payment" (via Nelnet).
 - Step 1: [Create a Nelnet Account \(one time only\)](#)
 - Step 2: [Make a payment](#)
- Payment methods: US bank account, credit card (fees apply), or international bank transfer via Convera and Flywire.
- All payments must be made online with the exception of outside scholarships and 529 payments.
- Payment arrangements must be in place by August 8 to avoid late fees and/or registration holds.

Payment Plans

Interest free monthly payment plans are available for your convenience through Nelnet (domestic) and Convera (international).

- \$71 per semester enrollment fee.
- A 20% down payment is due at the time of enrollment.
- Enrollment for the 5 month payment plan is July 8 through August 8 for both domestic and international plans.
- Instructions on enrolling for each type of plan may be found below.
 - [Domestic Plan Setup](#)
 - [International Plan Setup](#)

Important

- **Set up payment plans or pay in full by August 8 to avoid late fees or registration holds.**
- Due to processing delays at the U.S. Department of Education, federal student loans that have been fully completed (accepted in Workday, with a signed Master Promissory Note and Completed Entrance Counseling) may not appear on your student account until **Wednesday, July 15**. If you choose to utilize federal student loans, please check your Workday account after that date to view your updated balance.

Refunds (Credit Balances)

- Excess federal student aid that creates a credit balance after all charges are paid in full on the student account are automatically refunded to the student per federal guidelines.
- Student account refunds are processed the first week of the semester.
- You are encouraged to set up Direct Deposit in Workday by following the instructions [found here](#).
- Parent PLUS Loan refunds are sent to the parent borrower unless loan instructions are provided on the loan application to send the refund to the student.

Financial Aid

Check out our website: sfs.risd.edu/financial-aid

Accept Your Financial Aid

- You are required to actively accept or decline financial aid (federal loans) in Workday.
- Go to My Finances → “Financial Aid” → “Accept/Decline Awards” following instructions [here](#). If you don’t accept your aid, it won’t count toward your bill, which could leave a balance and result in late fines.

Federal Loans

If you are utilizing the federal loans offered to you, you must complete the following steps by **August 8, 2026**.

- Accept loans in Workday following [these instructions](#).
- [Master Promissory Note](#)
- [Entrance Counseling](#)

Federal Aid Authorization

Authorize use of federal aid for charges beyond tuition, fees, room & board (e.g. health insurance) during Onboarding via "Make My Federal Student Aid Authorizations". If you do not authorize federal aid to be used for charges outside of these, you may owe a balance after financial aid is applied to your student account. Complete the "Make My Federal Student Aid Authorizations" [task](#) in your Onboarding by **August 8**.

Reporting Outside Scholarships

Report any outside scholarships in Workday under "Finances" → "Outside Scholarship Reporting Form" following the instructions [here](#). Be sure to upload any scholarship letters as well!

International Sponsorships

If you're an international student with sponsorship (from an embassy, organization, etc.), report it in Workday under "Finances" → "International Sponsorship Reporting Form" following the instructions [here](#). Be sure to upload all formal agreements and guarantees.

Aid Resources

With information for both [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) students, the Aid Resources page on our site highlights federal student aid, student loans, and external scholarships. External scholarship resources include [Scholarship Universe](#) as well as a list of external scholarships vetted by Student Financial Services that is updated on a monthly basis.

Private Alternative Student Loan Options

Explore private loan options using:

- [ELMSelect](#) (compare loans)
- [Credible](#) (get real-time offers without affecting credit)
- RISD Private Alternative Loan Guide and Comparison Tool
 - [Undergraduate](#)
 - [Graduate](#)

Parent PLUS Loans

Parents of undergraduate students can apply for federal PLUS loans at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov). Please see [our website](#) for important information regarding the Parent PLUS Loan and changes that have gone into effect as of July 1, 2026.

Student Health Insurance

More information: sfs.risd.edu/student-accounts/insurance

RISD requires all students to be enrolled in a comprehensive health insurance policy. The institution automatically enrolls all students in the annual student health insurance plan administered by [University Health Plans](#) on behalf of United Healthcare. Information regarding the annual plan may be found on the website below:

- Visit <https://www.universityhealthplans.com/risd> for detailed policy information.
- 2026 - 2027 premium: \$2,657
- Coverage: Sept 1, 2026 – Aug 31, 2027

To Waive Student Health Insurance

Students with comparable U.S.-based insurance must waive by **August 8** to remove the charge.

If you don't need the RISD student health insurance plan and have US based coverage:

- Go to www.universityhealthplans.com/risd.
- Complete the annual 2026 - 2027 waiver by **August 8, 2026**.
- Be sure to save the confirmation email for your records.
- Approved waivers will be credited to your student account within 24 hours.

For further questions regarding the policy and coverage, please contact University Health Plans by telephone at 1-833-251-1147 or by email at info@univhealthplans.com.

Tuition Insurance

More information: sfs.risd.edu/student-accounts/insurance

RISD has partnered with GradGuard and Allianz Global Assistance to offer the Tuition Protection Plan. An easy, affordable way to protect investments made in education, the plan is designed to refund semester tuition and on-campus room and board if a student withdraws for covered medical reasons. Coverage is purchased on an optional basis.

- Must enroll before the first day of classes.
- For more information and to enroll visit gradguard.com/tuition/risd.

- Questions? Call (866) 724-4384 or email customerservice@gradguard.com.

Next Steps & Support

- Visit [this site](#) for help with Workday.
- Ensure financial arrangements are complete by **August 8**.
- Stay tuned for your Fall 2025 charges email in the coming days.
- Contact SFS with questions: sfs@risd.edu | (401) 454-6661.

Wishing you a successful year ahead,

The Student Financial Services Team