Applied Physics Graduate Program Application Checklist

Application Deadline: December 31

Students applying for admission to our Ph.D. program are asked to submit the following:

1. A completed application form
   Apply online using Rice University's graduate application form at https://gradapply.rice.edu/. Visit https://appliedphysics.rice.edu/applying for detailed application instructions and additional program information.

   The deadline to apply to our Ph.D. program is December 31 for fall admission. The application opens on September 1. No late applications will be accepted. Letters of recommendation must be received by January 6.

   On very rare occasions, we accept students in the spring semester (January start) on a case-by-case basis. To be considered for admission in the spring semester, applications must be submitted no later than October 31. (Letters of recommendation must be received no later than November 6). Please email us at sciapp@rice.edu if you want to be considered for spring admission.

2. Application fee
   The application fee is $85 and can be paid electronically by credit card. The application can be processed only when the application fee has been received or a university-paid waiver has been granted (see the list below.)

   University-paid waivers include, but are not limited to:
   - AGEP (Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate)
   - IRT (Institute for Recruitment of Teachers)
   - McNair Scholar Program
   - Nankai University Hundred Young Teachers Program
   - Project 1000
   - Summer Institute for Literary and Cultural Studies
   - National GEM Consortium
   - Mellon Mays Fellows
   - Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium Participants
   - Fulbrighters
   - Goldwater Scholars and Honorable Mentions

3. Transcripts
   Unofficial transcripts of grades from all undergraduate and graduate schools attended.
   For reviewing purposes, electronic copies of transcripts from each college or university you have attended can be used to meet the application requirements. If you are offered admission to Rice, official copies of the transcripts will be required and can be sent directly to the Applied Physics Graduate Program from the institution sealed by the institution in a signed envelope.

4. Letters of recommendation
   We suggest applicants submit four (4) letters of recommendation if possible. We begin evaluation of the full application once three (3) letters have been received. However, we cannot move forward on the evaluation with less than three (3) letters.

   Email addresses for recommenders MUST be from their official institutional addresses. Recommendations from personal email accounts (Yahoo, Gmail, MSN, etc.) will not be considered in the review of your application.

   All letters of recommendation must be submitted via the application system. We do not accept letters via email or postal mail. All letters are due January 6.
5. Required Standardized Tests (GRE, TOEFL/IELTS)

GRE Exam
Rice University requires all applicants to provide Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores. The scores must not be older than five years, and an official copy must be sent to Rice University directly from the Educational Testing Service. Personal copies are not acceptable. Although the subject GRE is not required, a strong performance on that exam is a substantial positive. Average scores for admitted Applied Physics students are in the range of Q164 and V156 and above.

The GRE Subject test in Physics is not required; however, if you have taken it, please include your score on your application.

TOEFL/IELTS Exam
The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required of any student whose native language is not English. The TOEFL and the IELTS are not required for U.S. Citizens, nor for international students who earned a degree from a university in which English is the official language of communication.

Scores must not be older than two years, and an official copy must be sent to the Graduate School directly from ETS. The TOEFL required minimums are 90 (iBT), 250 (CBT), and 600 (PBT). The average TOEFL for admitted Applied Physics students is 98.

For students who choose to take the IELTS in lieu of the TOEFL, the minimum is 7. As very few applicants have taken the IELTS, we do not have enough data to provide an average score for admitted students.

The Institution Code for the GRE is 6609 and the Department Code for Applied Physics is 5101. The Institution Code for the TOEFL is 6609 and the Department Code for Applied Physics is 60.

NOTE: you cannot search by code; you must search by department title.