

# College Decision Process at TAPA (2020)

## Financial Aid Estimates for TAPA Students: 2020 Edition

*Note: Aid Packages will vary based on your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC). These estimates are based on an EFC of \$0 and a full Pell Grant, which is the most common EFC for TAPA students. See Ms. Bryant if your EFC is otherwise.*

### [Verification Process Information - Click Here](#)

*If you are chosen for Financial Aid Verification (about half of TAPA seniors per year), you must:*

1. Bring in your parents W2 and Tax Returns from the FAFSA tax year (2018)
2. Bring in YOUR W2 and Tax Return if you had one.
3. Fill out worksheets with Ms. Bryant based on that info
4. Scan all documents and email to your colleges' financial aid offices.

### Ms. Bryant's Tips for Calculating College Costs

→ Set up a meeting so we can do it together (see Google Classroom for meeting invite)

[ms.bryant@tapaprovidence.org](mailto:ms.bryant@tapaprovidence.org) - email to get more information or a good contact for help

→ Calculate costs and aid based on semester, not the full year. Divide any yearly costs in half to estimate a semester bill. The questions you want to be able to answer are:

◆ *What is my **Fall Bill**, due in mid-August? How much financial aid do I have towards that bill, and how much do I have to pay out of pocket?*

◆ *What is my **Spring Bill**, due in mid-December? How much financial aid do I have towards that bill, and how much do I have to pay out of pocket?*

→ Do not include Work Study money in your calculations. This is \$ you have not yet earned, and would only earn if you had an on-campus job. However, this can be a good way to save up for your Spring Bill once you're on campus.

→ Assume you want to save an additional \$500-1000 or so per year for books.

→ If you are living on campus, ALWAYS choose the cheapest meal plan and housing options. RIC students qualify for a free bus pass.

→ Always ask the financial aid office and/or trusted adults at TAPA for help, if you are struggling or can't make a bill.

## RIC Sample Financial Aid Package (EFC \$0) - Living Off Campus

Estimated per-semester bill: \$500-750, no loans (assuming you receive the RIC Grant)

	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	TOTAL	Message
Federal Pell Grant	3,173.00 D	3,172.00 D	6,345.00	A1
Federal SEOG Grant	250.00 D	250.00 D	500.00	
Federal Work-Study	900.00 D	900.00 D	1,800.00	E1
RIC Grant	1,280.00 D	1,280.00 D	2,560.00	
<del>Subsidized Direct Loan</del>	<del>1,750.00 D</del>	<del>1,750.00 D</del>	<del>3,500.00</del>	<del>DL2</del>
<del>Unsubsidized Direct Loan</del>	<del>478.00 D</del>	<del>477.00 D</del>	<del>955.00</del>	<del>DL2</del>
<p>Fall cost "out of pocket": \$5130</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊖ \$3173 (Pell Grant)</li> <li>⊖ \$250 (SEOG Grant)</li> <li>⊖ \$1280 (RIC Grant)</li> </ul> <p>* \$427 = Fall bill, due in August</p>			<p>→ don't need loans. ;)</p> <p>→ exact same for Spring. ;)</p> <p>⊕ save about \$400 for books per semester.</p>	
			TOTAL 15,660.00	

  

ESTIMATE OF DIRECT COSTS:		ASSUMPTIONS:
Tuition	10,260.00* → Fall: \$5130 → Spring: \$5130	Residency: In-State
		Degree Program: Undergraduate
		Academic Level: Freshman
		Enrollment: Fall 2020 Full-Time Spring 2021 Full-Time

\*Estimated tuition, standard registration and activity fees for the award period.

**NOTE:** If a housing amount is shown above, this award notice is based on your plan to live on-campus as indicated on your FAFSA. If you do not live on-campus, an award adjustment may be necessary.

For this sample financial aid package -

- Full year cost is \$10,260; divided by 2 semesters = \$5130
- For each semester, subtract Pell Grant (\$3172), SEOG Grant (\$250) and RIC Grant (\$1280) = \$427 out of pocket
- You'll pay this once in **August** and then again in **December** (monthly payment plan available if you prefer, but if you can save up it's nice to just pay it off)
- Assume you have to save about that same amount for books
- You can save at least \$2000 in the summer with a full time job at minimum wage, if not way more. That could cover your tuition and books right off the bat if you can save your money carefully (barring help with household expenses, of course)

**URI Sample Financial Aid Package (EFC \$0): Talent Development, ON campus**  
 Estimated per-semester bill: **\$744**; around **\$5500** in public subsidized loans per year

The screenshot shows the 'Financial Aid' section of the URI e-Campus website. The page title is 'Award Summary' for the 'Financial Aid Year 2020-2021'. The user's name is 'EFC of \$0' and the aid year is 'URI Aid - 2020'. The page contains two tables: 'Spring 2021 Term Award Detail' and 'Fall 2020 Term Award Detail'. Handwritten notes in blue ink calculate the 'Yearly Cost of URI' as \$27,254, which is broken down into TD Grant (\$12,922), Pell Grant (\$6,345), and Promise (\$1,000), totaling \$6,987. This \$6,987 is then reduced by 'Public Loans' of \$3,500 (sub. loan) and \$2,000 (unsub. loan) to reach \$1,487. This \$1,487 is split into two bills of \$744 each, one for the Fall and one for the Spring. Additional notes mention a \$500 per year cost for books and the requirement of loan counseling.

**Yearly Cost of URI: \$27,254**  
 (TD Grant) - \$12,922  
 (Pell Grant) - \$6,345  
 (Promise) - \$1,000  
**\$6,987**  
 out-of-pocket cost before loans are applied.

**Public Loans**  
 - \$3,500 sub. loan  
 - \$2,000 unsub. loan  
**\$1,487**  
 out of pocket cost after loans are applied

**\* Fall Bill: \*** \$744  
 • Due in August  
 • can use monthly payment plan

**\* Spring Bill: \*** \$744  
 • Due in Dec.  
 • " " " "

⊕ \$500 per year for books.  
 ⊕ Must do Loan counseling.

- Subtract the TD Grant (\$12,922), Pell Grant (\$6,345), and Promise Grant (\$1,000) from the total yearly cost of URI (\$27,254) = \$6,987 yearly cost BEFORE loans
- Apply \$5,500 in loans to get a \$1,487 yearly cost; divided in two this is **\$744 out of pocket per semester**. This can be paid on a monthly payment plan.
- You'll pay this once in **August** and then again in **December** (monthly payment plan available if you prefer, but if you can save up it's nice to just pay it off)
- Assume you have to save about \$500 for books at least.
- Loan counseling and understanding
- what these loans mean is a must.

# “Where Should I Go to College?”

*An honest, TAPA alumni-informed view of costs and pros/cons at colleges our students most frequently attend, along with a checklist of what you need to make your decision.*

**Note:** any calculation about financial aid is based on the assumption that you had an EFC of \$0 and is not guaranteed, just estimates. You must review your own personal financial aid package to determine exact \$.

## 1. RIC: what do I need to know?

### Cost with FULL Pell Grant / EFC of zero:

- Off Campus Tuition: about \$1000-1500 per year after all financial aid
- Estimate \$500 per year for books
- In an average minimum wage summer job, you can definitely save this amount for college; plus, you will likely qualify for a work study job on campus once you are there
- There is a Fall bill due in August, so you'll need about \$500 for mid-August from your job and then a few hundred for books. Then a Spring Bill due in December for the spring semester, which you earn over the fall in work study or w/ savings.
- No loans necessary, but you can take a small loan if you are helping your family with \$ also.

### What are some reasons you might go to RIC?

- You feel you can be academically successful while continuing to live at home while attending classes at RIC
- You can save a lot of money doing so (most affordable 4 year school by a long shot)
- Arts community is strong, especially dance
- PEP program supports first gen students, as well as Learning for Life
- It means you will have smaller (if any) loans after college; can make a lot of other choices

### Things to keep in mind as you consider RIC:

- Can you imagine continuing to live at home while attending college?

### Who is RIC really great for?

- Students who are already deeply engaged with the Providence arts community (proximity to gigs and opportunities)
- Students who want to be in and close to a city vs. in a more rural area
- Certain majors: education, dance, social work....but they have a TON of majors
- Those students who benefit from a dance community - this is bigger at RIC than URI.

## 2. URI: what do I need to know?

### Cost with TD Program & Full Pell Grant:

- Approximately \$1500-2000 out of pocket (\$750 fall semester, \$750 spring semester) AND...
- \$5500 in **loans** - federal subsidized and unsubsidized (these are reasonable, relatively small loans).
- Most likely eligible for \$1500 in work study per year: this is money you earn once there.
- Your fall bill will likely be about \$750, which you can pay on a payment plan
- With a payment plan it could be: \$150 a month or so
- *BOOKS average cost*: budget \$600 per year for books

### Why go to URI if it is more expensive than other public options?

- If you really need or want to live on campus
- If you feel you need the support of the [TD program](#) - it's an awesome program
- If there is a major at URI vs. RIC that is better for your career (i.e. engineering, pharmacy)
- Generally speaking it is considered a stronger school than RIC, but it depends whether that matters given what you are studying and what you want to do

### Some things to keep in mind as you consider URI:

- The TD program occurs over the summer - mandatory attendance mid June to end of July
- Distance from Providence / homesickness
- Resources for dealing with some of the stressors of living on campus like additional costs, roommates, being away from home (MH support)

### Who is URI really great for?

- Students yearning for the full "college experience" on campus
- Students who really feel they need an entirely new location and fresh start in order to earn a bachelor's degree (home life is complicated)
- Certain majors like engineering, nursing, languages, business, it's HUGE and there are tons

## 3. CCRI: what do I need to know?

### Cost with full Pell Grant:

- Usually more or less free, either through the Promise Scholarship or the Pell Grant
- *BOOKS average cost*: a few hundred bucks, but likely covered by a refund

### What are some reasons you might go to CCRI?

- Cost - by far the cheapest option
- You aren't quite sure what you want to study and just want your general ed requirements

- You didn't get into Talent Development (URI) this year but want to - the only way to do that is to do a year at CCRI (you can't transfer from RIC to TD)
- It's become the best 2 year college in the US over the past two years!

### **Things to keep in mind as you consider CCRI:**

- You will do best at CCRI if you are pretty independently minded
- IN order to keep financial aid or the Promise Scholarship, you must pass your classes
- If home life is tough, consider the fact that you're saving a ton of money by going there and get an apartment with a friend...
- You can work close to full time while attending CCRI part or full time

### **Who is CCRI really great for?**

- If your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) was WAY high and there is no negotiation room to get the cost of RIC or URI down, this is a great way to cut costs for two years then transfer.
- If your GPA is on the lower sidem (2.3 and below) in high school and you want a chance to prove yourself in order to transfer to a 4 year school
- Those interested in specific associates programs such as nursing
- Very independent minded students who had success in Dual Enrollment program

### **Recent alumni to reach out to with questions about their experience**

#### **RIC**

- Asialiah Delgado '19
- Trakelle Brown '19
- Keysi Sanchez '19
- Dominique Dagraca '18
- Jovana Gil '17
- Jessica Michicoj '16
- Juan Ramirez '16

#### **URI**

- Kayla Ribiero '19
- Jyren Alves '19
- Caliya Varella '19
- Brian Wilcox '19
- Kalif Madriaga '19
- Sany Ramirez '19
- Slater Alcantara '18
- Brian Guzman '17
- Alex Santiago '16

#### **CCRI:**

- Crystal Cabrera '18

- Angie Cooper '16