STUDENT LIFE

Rochester College offers a wealth of co-curricular activities that appeal to a variety of interests. The intimate size of the student body allows all students to participate in leadership or social activities.

EVENTS

STUDENT PROGRAMMING
Each year, campus organizations and departments sponsor trips for faculty, staff, and students to area attractions, such as museums, plays, and sporting events.

HOMECOMING
Hosted by Student Government each fall, Homecoming is filled with activities for students and alumni, including men’s and women’s intercollegiate basketball games and the crowning of the Homecoming king and queen.

CELEBRATION
A centerpiece on campus each spring, Celebration is led by a director and features the talents of individuals and student groups. The show is a kaleidoscope of music, singing, acting, and choreography.

ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM
The annual Academic Symposium celebrates the academic achievements and capstone projects of graduating seniors. For traditional students, participation in the Symposium or another approved venue is required for graduation; students in accelerated programs are invited, but not required, to participate. A diverse array of subjects is presented each year, ranging from executive simulations to scholarly papers to musical recitals.

CHAPEL/CONVOCATION SERIES
Every full-time traditional student participates in Integrated Learning through the Rochester College Chapel/Convocation series (RCC). The RCC series offers opportunities for students to participate in community chapels, convocations, and service initiatives, all of which are aimed at building Christian faith and community, affirming Christian values, and developing a holistic understanding of wellness. For more details, see “Chapel/Convocation Series” in the “Academics” section of this catalog.

STUDENT GROUPS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Each year the student body selects a president, vice president of student activities, vice president of community life, vice president of public relations, and vice president of finance and fundraising. In the fall, senators select a senate chairperson to oversee the senate. These officers work to develop the quality of student-body life by planning activities and responding to student concerns. Each officer receives a stipend.

RESIDENCE LIFE
A student staff is selected each year to lead their peers in the residence halls. These students, called Resident Assistants, are responsible for governing the halls and for building community within them by planning social, spiritual, and educational activities. Each Resident Assistant receives a room discount and weekly pay.

MUSIC ENSEMBLES
Each spring students may audition for one or more of the vocal, instrumental, and theatrical groups sponsored by Rochester College. Students who have an interest in singing may join the A Cappella Chorus, which performs at local, regional, and national events, or the Rochester Community Chorus, which performs frequently with the Rochester Symphony Orchestra. Students also have the opportunity to audition for Autumn, which performs contemporary Christian music for a variety of audiences. Students with instrumental skills may audition for the concert band or string ensemble.

THEATRE
Students may audition for campus theatre productions or get involved backstage. The theatre department produces four plays per academic year, including a musical in the fall as part of Homecoming activities. Additionally, students have opportunities to learn to direct, stage manage, or design for the theatre. Students may also get involved with performance groups that tour to local schools, churches, camps, and other community venues.
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
Students may join the staff of The Shield, RC’s student magazine; the online version of The Shield; and The Shield On The Air to report on the pulse of Rochester College campus life. Working for these entities offers students the opportunity to use their creative talents in producing publications, websites, and podcasts while also helping them gain valuable media experience. Students from all majors are welcome to participate. Students can enroll in JRN 1101 Print Journalism; JRN 1201, Digital Journalism; or JRN 1301 Broadcast Journalism, which are hands-on workshop classes devoted to publishing The Shield, or they can serve as volunteers. Scholarships are available to students who work as editors or producers.

SOCIAL CLUBS
Students may join a social club that engages in social activities, competes in intramural athletics, and performs community service projects. Social clubs may also perform original dance/music numbers at the annual production, Celebration.

DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND HONOR SOCIETIES
Qualified students may be invited to join Alpha Chi, a national honor society; Alpha Sigma Lambda, a national honor society for continuing education students; or Psi Chi, a national honor society for psychology students.

ATHLETICS
INTERCOLLEGIATE
Rochester College’s athletic program competes in both the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA). Our conference affiliation within the NAIA is the AII (Association for Independent Institutions), which allows RC to compete for an automatic bid to NAIA National Championships. Men’s sports include JV and varsity basketball, JV and varsity baseball, golf, and soccer. Women’s sports include junior varsity and varsity basketball and varsity teams for volleyball, golf, and soccer. Rochester College boasts a tradition of athletic excellence, winning national titles in men’s basketball (1989, 1997, 2004, 2005), men’s cross-country (1989, 1990), men’s soccer (1996, 2006), women’s volleyball (1998, 1999), women’s softball (2011), and men’s golf (2009, 2010).

INTRAMURAL
Intramural teams compete in volleyball, basketball, flag football, whiffle ball, dodge ball, racquetball, and many other competitions.

CAMPUS MINISTRY
Campus Ministry exists to call for and empower the Rochester College community to a more faithful practice and reflection of Jesus Christ. The richness of the Christian faith is not best expressed as an intellectual knowledge of certain concepts and prescripts; rather, faith should inform, transform, and empower daily living. It should be the practice of a daily walk of a life that values Christ-likeness, service, integrity, and community. Campus Ministry seeks to engage the Rochester College community by the following:

- Organizing and overseeing regularly scheduled Chapel services throughout the semester. For more details, see “Chapel/Convocation Series” in the “Academics” section of this catalog.
- Fostering and growing community interaction among students, staff, and faculty.
- Supporting and coordinating meaningful, practical, and encouraging programming on and off campus.
- Creating involvement in service, missions, and leadership opportunities for residential, commuter, and online students.

Campus Ministry seeks to creatively and organically integrate spirituality into the daily life experience of the entire Rochester College community. This integration is not only natural but is also a necessary outgrowth of our convictions regarding the nature of Christian spirituality.

- Campus Ministry believes that Christian spirituality is fundamentally real. Spirituality is not simply something awaiting us in the world to come; rather, it is something that happens here in the real world, which is designed in its totality to glorify God.
- Campus Ministry believes that Christian spirituality produces action. If one recognizes God’s call for the world to glorify him, one will be moved to act in ways that witness to the kingdom’s reality in the world and to join God in his redemption of the world he loves.
- Campus Ministry believes that Christian spirituality is universal and inclusive. True spirituality is not to be reserved for some exclusive minority of “super-spiritual” persons; rather, all people are called to walk along with Jesus. God’s love and gospel are for all.
• Campus Ministry believes that Christian spirituality is communal. It is in community that the individual finds meaning and understanding of self, and true spirituality cannot negate that. After all, God calls a community of people, not simply a collection of persons. The Rochester College community is, in this sense, the most important factor to spiritual life on this campus. In this light, integration of spiritual life and the community is an essential part of ministry on this campus.

Campus Ministry is committed to a spirituality that embraces the wholeness of individuals and communities and the world around them. Understanding the difference between a church and a college, Campus Ministry seeks to help each student grasp that part of being a well-rounded, well-educated, and well-equipped person is to have asked and wrestled with the questions of spirituality and faith. We seek to transform our students and our community by incorporating the challenging, dynamic, vivifying person of Jesus into every aspect of our lives.

COMMUNICATION METHODS

Rochester College may communicate with students via several methods, including (but not limited to) U.S. Mail, phone, fax, or e-mail. Students should inform the college whenever a change is made to their contact information. An official RC e-mail address is issued to each student at the time he or she is admitted to RC. This official RC e-mail address takes the form of a person's first initial and last name, followed by "@rc.edu" (e.g., jcollege@rc.edu).

Students are responsible for activating their RC e-mail accounts; this may be accomplished on the Student Portal at my.rc.edu. Students must check e-mail regularly in order to receive important messages and notifications. Certain communications may be time-sensitive. Failure to read official RC communications sent to the student's official RC e-mail address does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of those communications.

Use of e-mail for official communications with students complies with other applicable RC policies and business practices.

SNOW DAYS AND CLASS CANCELLATIONS

The following are Rochester College's procedures for announcing a closure of the college and cancellation of classes in the event of severe weather.

The administration adheres to common practices and local warnings in the case of severe weather. We encourage all students traveling to campus to use caution and allot extra travel time if necessary. The following procedures are implemented for severe weather events that result in a campus closure:

1. The administration determines which classes the cancellation applies to: traditional day-time classes only, accelerated program evening classes only, or both. Decisions about traditional day-time classes are typically made before 7:00 a.m., and decisions about accelerated evening classes are typically made after 3:00 p.m.

2. A weather cancellation at one campus does not automatically mean that all RC site classes are canceled. Classes at the Macomb and Mott University Centers and Specs Howard School are canceled only if the host site/institution closes.

3. A weather emergency text message is sent to those who have signed up for this service. (To sign up, please go to https://www.e2campus.net/my/rc/. RC login information is required.)

4. Local media outlets are notified (Fox Channel 2; WWJ 950 Radio; WXYZ Channel 7; WDIV Channel 4).

5. Announcements are posted on the Student Portal (my.rc.edu - student login is not required); the homepage of RC's website (rc.edu); and RC's weather and class cancellation hotline (248.218.2003).

SOCIAL REGULATIONS

Rochester College is committed to building a campus culture that is in harmony with Christian values. Enrollment at Rochester College serves as the student's agreement to abide by the college's standards of conduct. Students are personally responsible at all times for their conduct on campus and in the RC community. Rochester College encourages good character; therefore, immodest or inappropriate attire, dishonesty, profanity, sexual promiscuity, gambling, property abuse, on-campus or underage use or possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or tobacco is not permitted. The Student Handbook, available on the Student Portal at my.rc.edu, describes additional policies. Violation of college regulations or civil law may lead to dismissal. Students may not agree with all college standards but are nonetheless expected to demonstrate responsibility as well as character through honorable adherence to the policies. Furthermore, all students are expected to observe common courtesy and cooperation with others in the Rochester College student body and community.
**RESIDENCE HALLS**
Rochester College provides room and board for its single traditional-age students (generally 18 to 25) who are enrolled and taking at least nine credit hours from a traditional undergraduate program, but residential space is limited. Policies promote a close-knit campus culture with social and spiritual aspects that are structured for the residential population. Housing for married or older adult learners (26+) may be available on a student-by-student basis but is not guaranteed. Boarding students in traditional halls and in Palmer rooms without kitchenettes must obtain cafeteria meal services. Each resident is financially responsible for room damages. Off-campus housing is allowed for students who live with relatives over the age of 25, are married, or are at least 21 years old and of junior status. Institutional Aid may not be available to students who live off-campus. Exceptions may be considered at the end of the academic year in which the student turns 23 years old or when residence halls are at capacity.

**PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING CLINIC**
The role of the Psychology and Counseling Clinic on campus is to help meet the psychological and developmental needs of young adults who face major life transitions and adjustments while they are in college. Psychological services can provide coping mechanisms to help students succeed both academically and personally. Professional psychological counseling services provided to Rochester College students through the clinic include individual psychotherapy, marital and family psychotherapy, and psychological assessments to assist in identifying the individual challenges of students. The current professional staff includes psychologists and psychotherapists who are licensed by the State of Michigan in their respective professions. The Psychology and Counseling Clinic is located in the White House on the east end of campus. The Rochester College Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences oversees the clinic. Appointments can be made by calling Dr. Gordon MacKinnon, Director of the Psychology and Counseling Clinic, at 248.218.2122.

**HEALTH INSURANCE AND SERVICES**
All residential students and full-time commuter students are required to provide proof of health insurance coverage and sign an exemption form declining the College’s insurance policy. Students with no health insurance coverage (and those who fail to provide proof of coverage) must purchase a non-refundable health insurance policy. Brochures outlining coverage details are available in the Student Development Office. Specific coverage questions should be addressed to the insurance provider, Niagara National, directly at 877-794-6908. See the Student Development Office for more details.

Nearby Henry Ford and Mercy Care Medical Centers prescribe medication and offer treatment for minor ailments. (A complete list of health services is available in the student handbook.) Emergency care is available at nearby Crittenton Hospital. Students may choose a local physician at their own discretion and are obligated to pay for services and medication.

**CAREER SERVICES**
Located in the Campus Center, the Career Services Office maintains a career and job search library, administers career assessments, and provides individual career counseling as well as résumé and interview assistance.

The Career Services Office assists students at every stage of college life in relating their personal interests, skills, and values to their academic pursuits and career goals. Career Services strives to give students the tools to begin a career planning process that takes them through graduation and into their search for jobs or graduate schools. A resource for freshmen and students with an undeclared major is guidance in selecting a major and learning about its career options. Career Services can also help refine job search skills and put students in touch with the employment community, as well as assist students in locating part-time and full-time employment through a job database on the college web site.