Frequently Asked Questions

Here are some answers to questions frequently asked by Lally MBA/M.S. prospective graduate students.

Question: Does Rensselaer offer an orientation program for admitted graduate students?
Answer: Yes. The general graduate student orientation program is mandatory.

Question: Does Rensselaer offer an orientation program specific for international graduate students?
Answer: Sometimes. That information will be provided to you directly via email from the Office of International Services for Students and Scholars (ISSS) When offered, the international graduate student orientation program is mandatory.

Question: Does the Lally School of Management offer an orientation program specific for Lally graduate students?
Answer: Yes. The MBA/M.S. orientation program is a two-day program in August. Attendance is highly recommended. There is no overlap between the Lally School’s orientation and the other two orientation events listed above.

Question: Do I need to pay tuition and fees before I begin classes?
Answer: No. You should expect to see an e-bill in September and pay tuition by the indicated deadline. You can contact the Bursar’s Office for additional details, click here.

Question: Should I register for classes before I come to Lally?
Answer: Yes, international and domestic students can register over the summer prior to the start of classes. The advantage of registering early is that you can secure seats in desired elective classes with limited space. Once you have been issued your Rensselaer ID Number (RIN) you should email the registrar at registrar@rpi.edu to request a time ticket and then you will be able to register.

Question: How will I know what classes to register for fall?
Answer: Go to the program curriculum and hours section of the incoming MBA and M.S. graduate students’ website and look under your program’s class hour for Fall 2018 to find the required courses you need to take along with course registration numbers (CRN) you use when registering for them.

Question: Do I need to buy health insurance from Rensselaer?
Answer: No. You are automatically enrolled in the Rensselaer sponsored health insurance plan. You must either stay in it or waive out of it by the deadline indicated via the Student Health Center online portal. You will need your RIN.

Question: Should I order my books before I come to Lally?
Answer: No. You will be notified of text books and other required materials on the first day of class.

Question: Do I need a New York State driver’s license to drive a motor vehicle?
Answer: You do need a license but it doesn’t necessarily need to be from New York. If you are from the United States, you can use the license from the state you are from. If you are an international student, please see the Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) website linked through the International Student Support Services (ISSS) page on the Rensselaer website for further details.

*You can find the Office of Graduate Education’s frequently asked questions here.