



REED COLLEGE OFFICE OF ADMISSION

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www.reed.edu

Transfer Guide

Am I eligible?

You can apply to Reed as a transfer candidate if, by the time you would enroll at Reed, you will have graduated from high school or the equivalent and will have

- completed one or more terms (such as a quarter or semester) as a full-time student working toward a degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning; or
- received financial aid at an accredited institution of higher learning; or
- earned a minimum of six Reed units (one Reed unit equals four semester or six quarter credit hours) of allowable transfer credit from an institution of higher learning. For further details, please refer to the "How will my credits transfer to Reed?" section of this guide.

Students who have not attended college full time, but are interested in transferring college courses or receiving credit for AP or other advanced placement examinations, should consult the admission office's AP guide available in print or online at www.reed.edu/apply/applying_to_reed/apguide.html.

What paperwork is required to apply as a transfer student?

The following forms and information are required. All of the supplemental forms are included in Reed's application packet. The deadline for fall admission is March 1 (spring admission is not available).

- Common Application (go to www.commonapp.org)
- An application fee of \$50 by mail (check or money order) or online at www.reed.edu/apply/applying_to_reed/paymentinfo.html
- Application supplement: "Why Reed?" essay and writing sample with instructor's comments and/or grade
- Transfer essay: Why do you want to leave your current institution?

- Teacher recommendations, which must be completed by academic teachers in two different academic areas (at least one should be a college professor, instructor, or teaching assistant)
- Official transcripts of all previous college work attempted or completed
- College Official's Report (from your current or most recent college attended)
- An official final high school transcript or an official GED score report
- SAT I or ACT scores (SAT information is available at www.collegeboard.com; ACT information is available at www.act.org)

If you have not taken the SAT or the ACT, plan on doing so as soon as possible so that scores can be submitted by the application deadlines.

If your college does not give grades, your professors must submit written evaluations of your work.

International students are required to present results from the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or ACT. If English is not your native language, it is also recommended that you submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Test (IELTS) score.

Fall admission timeline (spring entrance not available)

Applications Due (postmarked by)	Decisions Mailed (for completed applications)	Candidate's Reply
March 1	May 15	2 weeks from date of decision mailing

Financial aid timeline

It is imperative that the appropriate deadlines be met in order to receive full financial aid consideration.

File the FAFSA with the federal processor	File the CSS PROFILE	File the Reed financial aid form with the college	File student and parent IRS income tax forms, W-2, and 1099 statements
March 1	March 1	March 1	May 1



Financial aid

800/547-4750 or 503/777-7223

financial.aid@reed.edu

The goal of Reed's financial aid program is to provide educational opportunity to qualified students who would otherwise be unable to afford a Reed education. Eligibility for financial aid, therefore, is based on need. Reed offers no merit aid. Aside from an egalitarian value, this approach benefits the Reed community by creating an economically and socially diverse student population.

Reed meets 100 percent of demonstrated need for every admitted student who, in turn, meets all admission and financial aid application deadlines. Demonstrated need is determined by Reed's financial aid office using nationally standardized formulas as well as institutional policies to assess the information families submit on the CSS PROFILE, FAFSA, and income tax returns.

Reed aspires to make every admission decision without regard to an applicant's ability to pay; however, when financial aid resources are insufficient to meet the need of all qualified applicants, those applicants deemed more qualified are given precedence in the admission process.

Eligibility for financial aid is limited to a total of 12 semesters of college attendance. **For institutional funding, eligibility is limited to a total of eight semesters of college attendance, including semesters spent at other colleges, whether or not students receive aid those semesters.** Students are notified of the number of semesters of institutional funding available to them once the registrar's office completes a credit evaluation and determines the coursework acceptable for transfer credit.

To apply for financial assistance at Reed, you must complete two separate application forms:

■ **College Scholarship Service (CSS) PROFILE:** The PROFILE assesses eligibility for institutional grant funds. Register for the PROFILE application at www.collegeboard.com. Once you have registered, you can begin the online application immediately. Submit the completed PROFILE application to the College Board by March 1.

■ **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):** The FAFSA, which assesses a student's eligibility for federal funds, is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. This form cannot be filed before January 1, but must be filed by March 1 to meet Reed's financial aid application deadline.

Reed College expects you and your parents to assume the primary responsibility for your educational expenses; therefore, **unless you are over 25 years of age, a ward of the court, or both of your parents are deceased, you will be required to complete the parental income and asset portions of the CSS PROFILE to be considered for institutional financial aid (Reed Grant).**

Limited funds are available to assist international transfer applicants who demonstrate need. International applicants must complete the CSS PROFILE by March 1. CSS PROFILE registration materials are available at www.collegeboard.com.

Reed College code for PROFILE: 4654

Reed College code for FAFSA: 003217

Nontraditional age students

Reed welcomes the diversity of age and experience that older students bring to the campus. The college encourages applications from those students who have been away from school for a time and wish to resume or begin college studies toward a bachelor's degree. With approximately 20 percent of the student body over age 22, the Reed curriculum and community offer an atmosphere of serious learning that is particularly suited for the mature student who plans to pursue a full-time program.

Reed follows the established federal guidelines to determine independent status for financial aid applicants. A special fund at Reed provides reentry scholarships to students age 25 to 50 who are returning to four-year institutions after a significant break in their studies to obtain their first bachelor's degree. For more information, contact the financial aid office at 503-777-7223.

How will my credits transfer to Reed?

With an offer of admission to Reed College, you will receive a preliminary credit evaluation. Courses are evaluated in terms of their applicability toward a liberal arts and sciences degree.

You should note that transfer credit will not be given for the following courses:

- courses that cover work at a level below introductory courses at Reed
- courses that are vocational, technical, or experiential in nature



■ courses, or portions of courses, that teach general writing skills

■ courses for which you received a grade below C-

Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) test credit is limited to a maximum of eight Reed units and will only be granted upon receipt of an original score report. AP or IB credits may not be used to fulfill college distribution requirements but will count toward the total number of units required for graduation.

We recommend that you keep your syllabi from previous courses. This will better prepare you to meet with the faculty in your chosen major to discuss which courses will count toward major requirements.

Can we compromise here?

The college allows for certain decisions on transfer credit and requirements to be made on a case-by-case basis through a petition process. Students can petition to meet distribution requirements with fewer than the minimum units or to obtain departmental approval of credit. Although such petitions are not always granted, the potential benefits of filing a petition may make the process worth your time and effort. Once at Reed, you can ask your adviser if petitioning may be an option for you.

How do I get that diploma?

In order to graduate, you must complete 30 Reed units, 15 of which must be completed at Reed. (One Reed unit is equivalent to four semester or six quarter credit hours; it is equivalent to one semester-long class at Reed.) The average course load at Reed is three to four units per semester. Reed graduates must fulfill general college requirements as well as major, departmental, and divisional requirements. Every standard major falls into a "division," which is a grouping of related departments.

If admitted, the evaluation of transfer credit that you will receive in your admission packet will indicate how your previous work may be applied toward the general college requirements. To determine how the credits might be applied towards departmental and divisional requirements, you may need to speak with your faculty adviser and with the chair of your department and division.

General requirements

Humanities 110 is required of all first-year students and students who transfer with first-year standing but without transfer credit equivalent to Humanities 110.

Students who transfer as sophomores or juniors without transfer credit equivalent to Humanities 110 may fulfill the humanities requirement by taking either Humanities 110, or, in lieu of Humanities 110, a combination of Humanities 210, 220, or 230, plus one additional unit from Group A or Group B (see next column).

Courses used to fulfill the humanities requirement may not be used to fulfill the Group A or B requirements. We do recommend taking Humanities 110, if at all possible; at Reed, it truly is the course upon which everything else builds.

Three semesters (six quarters) of physical education are required before graduation. Only one quarter of PE may be earned at a time. PE courses will transfer from other institutions.

Reed students must pass the junior qualifying exam before beginning a thesis in the senior year. The exam (known as the junior qual) is administered by each department near the end of the junior year. The objectives of the qual are to gauge students' mastery of their disciplines, to identify weaknesses in students' preparation for advanced study or thesis work in those disciplines, and to assist students in unifying their knowledge of a major field of study.

The senior thesis and oral examination are distinctive features of the Reed education. The thesis is the sustained investigation of a carefully defined problem—experimental, critical, or creative—chosen from the major field. The thesis culminates with a final comprehensive two-hour oral review under the direction of the major department.

Distribution requirements

The distribution requirements for all Reed undergraduates include breadth across disciplines and depth within each group. They are designed to ensure the broad understanding of the arts and sciences signified by a liberal arts education.

Each group calls for two units in the same discipline. No course may satisfy more than one distribution requirement.

Group A: literature, philosophy, religion, and the arts

Group B: history, social sciences, and psychology

Group C: natural sciences

Group D: mathematics, logic, foreign language or linguistics

Group X: 2 units in a single department outside the major department

No student may fulfill more than one distribution requirement through work in his or her major department. However, students pursuing interdisciplinary majors may, at the discretion of the major committee, fulfill two distribution requirements through their major department(s).





Distribution requirements may not be satisfied by a waiver, by independent study courses, by Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate credit, or by courses taken for credit/no credit.

Only one of Humanities 210, 220, or 230 may be used to satisfy distribution requirements.

For details on distribution requirements see the college catalog or consult Reed's website at www.reed.edu.

Where will my credits put me in the way of class standing?

In general, class standing can be estimated as follows:

1–6 Reed units: first-year student

7–12 Reed units: second-year student

15+ Reed units: junior standing (with departmental approval)

Remember: 1 Reed unit equals 4 semester or 6 quarter credit hours.

Can I transfer in as a junior?

If you plan to transfer to Reed as a junior (with 15 or more Reed units), it is important to understand the structure of the junior year here. All juniors take the junior qualifying exam (described in the general requirements section) in the second semester of that year. It is very difficult to transfer in as a junior and sit for the exam after only one semester of Reed College work. *Therefore, if applying as a junior, keep in mind that an additional semester or two might be needed to prepare fully for advanced work in your department.*

When a credit evaluation is completed for someone applying for junior standing, that evaluation is sent to the department chair in the intended major. The chair will then assess which courses will satisfy departmental and divisional requirements. (Remember, they are doing this by looking over course

descriptions and without the benefit of talking with you about each course.) The chair will also estimate how many semesters it may take you to complete your major requirements at Reed. When you arrive on campus for orientation, you will meet with your adviser, who will be better able to assess, in depth, your preparation in your major.

How do I get help?

You will meet with your adviser during orientation to go over your credit evaluation and plan your course of study at Reed. Having course descriptions and syllabi from your previous institution(s) with you can prove very helpful during this meeting.

What does Reed look like?

800/547-4750 or 503/777-7511
admission@reed.edu

We strongly encourage you to visit campus. During your visit you can attend an information session, have an interview, go on a campus tour, sit in on classes, and spend a night in a residence hall. Additionally, our visit coordinator can assist you in making appointments with faculty members. The most important advantage of visiting Reed is that you will experience the intangible qualities of the community that the literature cannot convey.

If visiting Reed is not feasible, but you would like to have an interview, please call the admission office. We can arrange an interview with an alumna or alumnus in your area. Interviews are available for transfer students September through March each year.

Where can I live?

503/777-7536
res.life@reed.edu

Should you wish to live on campus, new transfer students are guaranteed housing. Upon receipt of your enrollment, the residence life office will send you information about housing.

If you prefer not to live on campus, there are many off-campus housing options within a two-mile radius of Reed. The residence life office has information on houses, apartments, and studios available for rent.

Write a Reedie

writeareedie@reed.edu

What is the Glow Opera? Renn Fayre? The Doyle Owl? Satisfy your curiosity about social life, Reed lore, or the general college experience by corresponding with a real, live Reedie! Please address your letter to Write A Reedie, c/o the admission office. You can also email your questions to writeareedie@reed.edu.