

2023 AUDITION SESSIONS Q & A

How do I apply for RIA?

Rowville Secondary College welcomes all students who live in the Rowville school zone as stipulated by the Department of Education and Training Victoria. However, students from all areas (even if they are not zoned to Rowville) are welcome to request consideration for enrolment into any of our educational programs, including the Institute of the Arts. To be considered for admittance to RIA, students must undertake an audition to assess their suitability for this program.

Our main audition session for 2023 was held in May, but we will be holding a second audition session during the week of 16th-20th October. After this, auditions will be offered at the discretion of the RIA Administrator.

Requests for audition must be made directly to the RIA Administrator by completing the audition form contained in the RIA Audition Pack which is available on the [RIA page of the Rowville Secondary College website](#). To take part in our October audition session, the audition form and supporting documents as outlined in the pack need to be submitted to Rowville Secondary College no later than **Friday, October 6th** as per instructions in the Audition Pack (please do not email your application unless instructed to).

Where and when will the auditions be held?

Our October audition session will take place between 16th – 20th October. These auditions need to be scheduled around teachers' timetables and availability during that week. You will be notified of the exact day and time of your audition/s no later than Tuesday, October 10th. If, for some reason, you know you cannot make it on a particular day that week, please let us know so we can try to schedule your audition time/s to suit. We will do our best to accommodate requests but cannot guarantee your requested time. **Please note, due to time constraints, students auditioning in October or later will be offered an audition for their first preference specialism only, unless auditioning for their second preference has been recommended or agreed upon with the RIA Administrator.**

All applicants will be required to register upon their arrival at the Rowville Secondary College Main Office, Humphreys Way, Rowville. Auditions will take place in various spaces around the school.

What's involved in the audition?

RIA auditions are specifically designed for each specialism. Students who choose* to audition for two specialisms (1st and 2nd preference) are required to undertake the prescribed audition for each specialism and must ensure they are adequately prepared for both their first and second choice. All details regarding the auditions can be found in the Audition Pack which is available from the RIA Enrolments page website.

Will the auditions be taken in groups or one-on-one?

Auditions for Dance, Media and Visual Arts may be taken in groups with students who are applying for Year 7 up to Year 12. Auditions for Music and Drama are closed, with just the student and the teacher/s in the room.

*Please see note above about auditioning for two specialisms



Is there an audition fee?

An administration fee of \$15 needs to be made via the link provided in the Audition Pack. Please note, even if you are auditioning for two specialisms, you only need to pay for one audition. In addition to paying the fee, the Audition Request form needs to be submitted by the required date.

What if my child is unable to make it to the allocated audition?

If you can't make the allocated time or day, please let us know ASAP. Individual auditions will be offered to potentially suitable applicants towards the end of the year.

My child is a bit nervous about auditioning. What would you suggest?

Nervousness is a part of life, and all children should be encouraged to pursue their dreams and not be put off by feeling uncomfortable. The best way of controlling nerves is to be confident, and this can be achieved through thorough preparation. Make sure you and your child have read through the Audition Pack so you know what will be required of them on the day.

What will my child need to bring on the day?

Students should be dressed smartly, comfortably, and suitably to the type of audition they will be undertaking. It would be advisable to bring a water bottle – nervousness can lead to a dry throat and impact on performance. Other than items listed in the Audition Pack, the following items are recommended in respect to each specialism: •

- Dancers will need to bring music for their solo performance (preferably on phone which has been switched to airplane mode or USB), foot thongs are a good idea, and students should wear dance attire but not baggy clothes (so clear lines are able to be distinguished). Please note, runners/sneakers should not be worn unless they have black soles.
- Actors are not required to bring any special items but if they wish they may audition in character costume.
- Musicians will need to bring their instrument unless they are pianists or drummers, as these instruments are available at the college (as are amplifiers for electric instruments). Singers should bring digital backing music on phone (switched to airplane mode) or USB.
- Visual Artists and Media students are not required to bring any special items, other than what is indicated in the Audition Pack. All materials will be supplied.

Will parents be able to attend the audition?

Rowville SC is a family-friendly school and parents are welcome to come to the college on the day of auditions. The audition itself will be closed to anyone who is not auditioning during that session. The reason for this is that experience suggests that the students perform at their best in this environment when totally concentrated on the task at hand and free from all distractions. We ask that parents behave respectfully, don't directly approach teachers about how their child is performing and just encourage their child to see the audition as another great opportunity to have fun and gain experience in a discipline that they love.

Does my child need to audition for two specialisms*? *Please see earlier note about auditioning for two specialisms during October audition session or later.*

It is not mandatory to audition for more than one specialism. Students at RIA have one chosen specialism, however there are two reasons a child may wish to audition for two specialisms:

1. They are finding it difficult to choose which specialism they would like to pursue. After the auditions have been assessed, if the RIA Director finds that the student has done equally well in both, we will ask them to choose which one they would like to enrol in.
2. Sometimes a specialism class may be at full capacity. It's a good idea to have a back-up audition for a second specialism just in case the class is/becomes full. While this is particularly the case for our more popular specialisms, Dance and Visual Arts, as we never know how many applications we are going to receive for any one specialism, it's a good idea to have a back-up.



It's important to remember, however, that your child should only audition for a second specialism if they are willing to accept a place in that class.

If your child elects to audition for two specialisms, they will need to complete all requirements for each audition. Please note, even if you are auditioning for two specialisms, you only need to pay for one audition.

How will it be determined whether my child has met the required standards for gaining a place in RIA?

At the end of each session the teachers will review the notes that they have made while the audition was occurring. They will summarise the notes on a prepared rubric which provides advice to the RIA Director on each prospective student's performance. They will have considered the attributes which lead to the realisation of potential such as artistic and creative talent, learning capability, art specific intelligence, ability to follow instructions, team orientation and general attitude.

The RIA Director will also have received, read and analysed each student's most recent school report. Attitude and work effort represented by things like completion of set tasks, personal best achievements and seeking feedback to improve will be key requirements being considered.

When and how will I be notified whether my child has met the requirements for a place in RIA?

All auditionees will be notified by email regarding the outcome of their audition by November 3rd.

Please note that all successful applicants will be required to pay a \$200 deposit/fees contribution upon receiving their offer.

For students going into Year 7 in 2024: if your child is successful in gaining a place at RIA, you will also need to contact your primary school so that your Year 7 Transition Placement 2024 Application form can be changed to reflect Rowville Secondary College (RIA) as your chosen school.

What if my child is notified that they have not met the required standard for RIA?

It is always disappointing when we don't achieve things that we hoped we would. Our main goal is to make sure your child is entering a program where they are going to fit in well with the capabilities of the other students. We encourage students to come back and audition with us again at a later date and can provide feedback on their auditions if requested.

Rowville SC is proud of all the opportunities that we provide. In addition to RIA we have other strong programs:

1. Rowville Sports Academy (Basketball, Cricket, Football (AFL), Football (Soccer), Golf, Netball, Volleyball)
2. Rowville Maths and Science Academy
3. General Excellence

Auditioning for another specialism within RIA is also another option.

If my child is successful in gaining a place in RIA, will they have to audition in the future to maintain their place?

Students are not required to audition annually. Once they have been allocated a place it is available to them throughout their school years, provided they meet all of the requirements of the program. This includes appropriate attitude to all aspects of their schoolwork, and payment of the required fees.

What if my child is not happy with their chosen specialism or develops a greater interest in a different specialism?

It is possible to change specialism once allocated in RIA. However, to be granted a change, a successful audition would be required in the proposed new specialism and meetings to discuss the change with appropriate teachers and the Director of RIA. Each individual case is considered on its merits.

What if my child wanted to leave RIA? Could they remain at the school?

Yes, as is indicated above the school has a range of programs and all of these are available to interested students who fulfil the entry requirements. The school is split over two campuses: the Eastern Campus which houses RIA and the RSA, and the Western Campus which houses General Excellence and the MSA.

What is the fee structure at RIA?

Please [click here](#) for the 2023 Fees Schedule. 2024 schedule will not be confirmed until later in the year.

If you have further questions relating to RIA or the auditions, please don't hesitate to contact RIA Administrator, Jenn Walter at ria@rowvillesc.vic.edu.au