

Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - FOR KDI SCHOOL STUDENTS

# 1. Is it possible to travel during the summer break?

Yes, this is possible. If you want to use the entire summer break for travel, you must plan to take all 8 courses required for your degree in the fall and spring semesters only.

# 2. Are there some KDI students living off-campus?

No, all of our KDI students have chosen to live ON campus as these apartments are cheaper, are already furnished and also have a better school system for their children.

# 3. Is the elementary school within the walking distance?

Unfortunately, none of the elementary schools in the town of Piscataway are within walking distance of the on-campus family housing apartments. However, there is a free school bus service that picks up the children right outside the apartments and brings them directly to school. The elementary schools are about a 10-minute drive from the KDI apartments on campus.

# 4. Are there any scholarships for international students?

Unfortunately, no, Rutgers-Bloustein School does not offer any scholarships for this program at this time.

# 5. Would it be possible to live in 'Family Housing' even though I'm single?

Yes. If you are expecting your spouse and children to arrive at a later date, it is possible to request a 2-bedroom family housing unit on campus. Other KDI students have done this in the past. You will be responsible to pay the full rent for the whole unit for that year.

# 6. Do you have any information about middle-school?

There are 3 middle schools within Piscataway Township:

- Conackamack Middle School
- Theodore Schor Middle School
- Quibbletown Middle School

Space availability will determine which middle school your child will be placed into. There is free school bus service to all of these schools.

# 7. Can I receive any more of the elementary school's pictures and information?

There are 4 elementary schools within Piscataway Township:

- Knollwood Elementary School
- Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary School
- Randolphville Elementary School
- Grandview Elementary School

Space availability will determine which middle school your child will be placed into. There is free school bus service to all of these schools. The web site for each school will feature pictures and additional information on programs and courses offered.

# 8. Is there a pre-school?

Yes, there are several options for pre-schools. Both public and private pre-schools are available. However, most public pre-schools have been full each year. So most KDI Scholars have enrolled their children in private pre-schools:

- <u>Livingston Day Care Center (Private)</u>
- Children's River by the River (Public) & Children's Corner by the Pond (Public)
- Goddard School Piscataway (Private)

# RUTGERS



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# 9. How is the air condition in New Jersey? I've heard that it's not good due to industrial plants there?

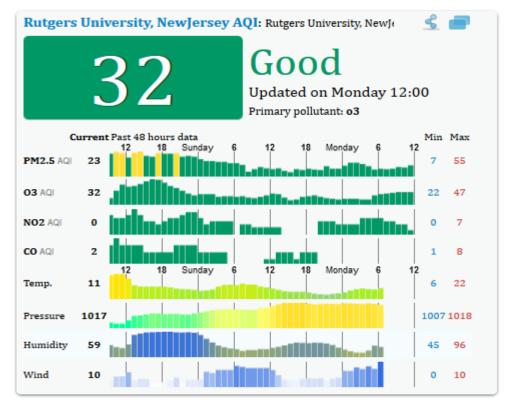
The New York City metro area along with central New Jersey, where Rutgers – Bloustein School is located, consistently have significantly cleaner air quality and more days of clean air than Seoul, South Korea. Here are some comparisons from the Air Quality Index project (source: http://www.njaqinow.net/)

#### Understanding the AQI

The purpose of the AQI is to help you understand what local air quality means to your health. To make it easier to understand, the AQI is divided into six categories:

Air Quality Index (AQI) Values	Levels of Health Concern	Colors
When the AQI is in this range:	air quality conditions are:	as symbolized by this color:
0 to 50	Good	Green
51 to 100	Moderate	Yellow
101 to 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Orange
151 to 200	Unhealthy	Red
201 to 300	Very Unhealthy	Purple
301 to 500	Hazardous	Maroon

As of 30 April, 2018, Rutgers University had an AQI rating of 32 = GOOD (source: http://aqicn.org/here/)

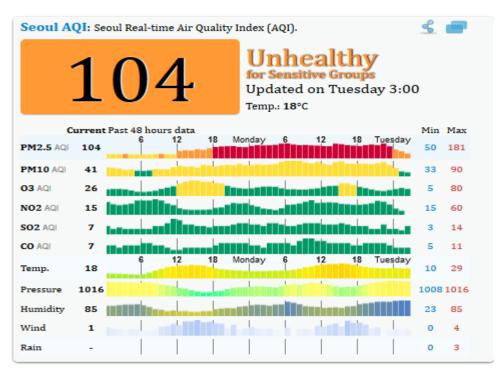




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For the same date, Seoul, South Korea had an AQI rating of 104 = UNHEALTHY



#### 10. Are there English programs for spouses?

Yes, there are different opportunities for spouses to learn English during their time here at Rutgers. There are both formal and informal programs to choose from. The Rutgers Center for Global Services hosts the <u>Rutgers International Women's Group</u> which offers English conversation classes for spouses. Rutgers also has the Program for American Language Studies (<u>PALS</u>) which is a more formal, structured English language program which spouses can sign on for as well.

# 11. As a single room resident, would there be a spare residence in case of a family visit?

Unfortunately, there are no spare rooms in on-campus housing for visiting family members. Depending on the length of your family's stay, you may want to consider renting a 2-bedroom family housing apartment on-campus during your year here at Rutgers. (Also, see question #5)

If you are determined to stay in a single room on-campus, some options for your visiting family would be short-term apartment rentals off campus through rental sites such as <a href="https://www.airbnb.com/">https://www.vrbo.com/</a>. Additionally, there are some extended stay hotels in the area that provide a kitchen in the hotel room. Some examples are: Extended Stay America – Piscataway, NJ Residence Inn by Marriott – Somerset, NJ

#### 12. Would it be still okay even if my TOEFL score is somewhat low?

The Admissions Committee for Rutgers – Bloustein School does not have required minimum scores for both the TOEFL and the IELTS exams. We take a holistic approach when reviewing applications and take ALL aspects of your application into consideration when making our admissions decision. Our admissions decision is not based on the TOEFL or IELTS score alone. So all students are invited to apply, regardless of their TOEFL or IELTS scores.



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#### 13. Could you send me more information about a college for child above 20 years old?

A great option for children who have graduated from high school already is to take some classes at the local community college. There is no entrance examination required. They can take as many or as few classes as they choose. The community college for Rutgers – New Brunswick is <u>Middlesex County Community College</u>. Prices here are very affordable and lower than Rutgers or any other 4-year college.

#### 14. Is there an ice-hockey team in elementary school?

Unfortunately, no, none of the Piscataway elementary schools have an ice hockey team. However, there are recreational ice hockey leagues in the area that your child can still participate in. These leagues are located in nearby towns. The closest one is the <a href="Protec Ponds Ice Hockey Center">Protec Ponds Ice Hockey Center</a> that hosts ice hockey summer camps, hockey academies, and even has a travel hockey league.

## 15. Does the school admission division accept IELTS score as well?

Yes, we accept IELTS scores and TOEFL scores. The Admissions Committee for Rutgers – Bloustein School does not have minimum required scores for both the TOEFL and the IELTS. We take a holistic approach when reviewing applications and take ALL aspects of your application into consideration when making our admissions decision. Our admissions decision is not based on the TOEFL or IELTS score alone. So all students are invited to apply, regardless of their TOEFL or IELTS scores.

# 16. How far is it from the dormitory to elementary school?

The elementary schools are about a 10-minute drive (approximately 4 miles) from the KDI apartments on campus.

# 17. Are there some programs for family?

Yes, there is a Resident Advisor that lives onsite at family housing at Marvin Apartments and she schedules family programming throughout the year. Additionally, the Rutgers Center for Global Services also has some programs and events designed for international students and their families.

#### 18. How is the quality of elementary school?

The New Jersey Department of Education has put together Performance Reports on each of the public schools in the state. You can view those reports for all Piscataway elementary schools (located in Middlesex County) here.

#### 19. Is it okay to bring my pet (canine) there?

Unfortunately, pets are not allowed in the on-campus housing units.