



IRT Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What are the differences between the Associates Program and the Summer Workshop?

From August through November, all IRT Associates and Interns receive:

- Extensive online and phone counseling
- Individualized support as you choose a graduate school program and apply to our consortium of renowned colleges and universities
- Personalized and interactive advising in editing statements of purpose, resumes, and writing samples
- 10–12 application fee waivers to colleges and universities within our consortium

The **Associate Program** is all virtual and has *no residential component*. It is open to current juniors or seniors, as well as anyone holding a Bachelor's degree or Master's degree from an accredited college or university. At no cost to you, the IRT's experienced staff will help you:

- Clarify your career goals, investigate graduate programs, and create a target list of graduate schools
- Apply for partial/full tuition waivers, save on application fees, and secure grants and other funding
- Meet admissions representatives and academic deans from our consortium during Recruiters' Weekend
- Connect with the IRT's growing nationwide alumni network (#IamIRT)

The **Summer Workshop** is a paid, 4-week, residential internship on the Phillips Academy Andover campus in July. The workshop is eligible for Undergraduate Juniors and Seniors only and provides:

- GRE prep, statement of purpose workshops, writing conferences, films, and practice interviews
- Exposure to graduate-level curriculum comprising critical, cultural, and educational theory
- Opportunities to develop pedagogical and teaching skills and facilitate seminar discussions while working alongside IRT summer faculty

Upon completion of the four-week workshop, Interns *automatically* become members of the IRT Associate Program and are eligible for all program benefits. All IRT Associates receive the same virtual counseling from September – November.

2. What are the key components of the IRT application?

The IRT application consists of an online application which requires you to upload a resume, three letters of recommendations, and unofficial transcripts from all institutions in which you've received college credit; This includes all undergraduate and graduate institutions, community



colleges, summer programs, and study abroad programs, even if the grades appear in another transcript.

Once the application closes on March 1, The IRT Admissions Committee will contact you to schedule your **required** Skype interview during the month of March. Please be sure to have attended/viewed an IRT Info-session prior to your interview.

3. What can I expect in the interview?

Please come to an IRT interview with the same level of preparedness that you would in a professional interview. Be punctual and ready to engage in a dialogue about your IRT candidacy and your goals for graduate education. During this interview, IRT interviewers are looking to gain a better understanding of your academic and career objectives, scholarly interests, and educational potential. Additionally, your attire should be appropriate and professional. You can expect this interview to last approximately 30 minutes.

4. How do I attend an IRT info-session?

Several on-campus info-sessions are conducted during the Fall and Spring semesters. Please contact Monica Reum, Recruitment & Admission Program Specialist at mreum@andover.edu to see if the IRT is visiting your institution or for more information on how to attend an online info-session.

5. What is the IRT looking for in the application essays?

The application essays allow the IRT Admissions Committee to determine an applicant's preparedness for graduate study in their anticipated field. Be sure to answer *all* aspects of the essay questions in a thorough, organized manner. Additionally, we look for candidates who exemplify a commitment to diversity and social justice through leadership and scholarship across a range of educational fields.

6. What should I do if my recommender did not receive the automated Letter of Recommendation request?

Ask your recommender to check their "Spam" folder for the notification. If it is not there, you can resend the notification by logging back in to your online application.

7. I am an undergraduate student and my GPA is below a 3.0. Can I still apply?

Yes, you can still apply. Please know, however, that our application pool is very competitive and a GPA below the 3.0 requirement for undergraduate students can impact your chances of being accepted. It is important to show steady academic progress is being made.



Do I have to be a US Citizen to apply to the IRT?

No, residency or citizenship is not a requirement. However, we have a strong preference for applicants who have a commitment to teach, counsel, and administrate at schools, colleges, and universities *within* the United States upon completion of their graduate program.

8. How many schools can I apply to through the IRT?

IRT students **must** apply to 10-12 institutions within our consortium. An IRT advisor will assist you in determining your school list based on your program of interest, research questions/teaching interests, desired teaching credentials, and academic profile.

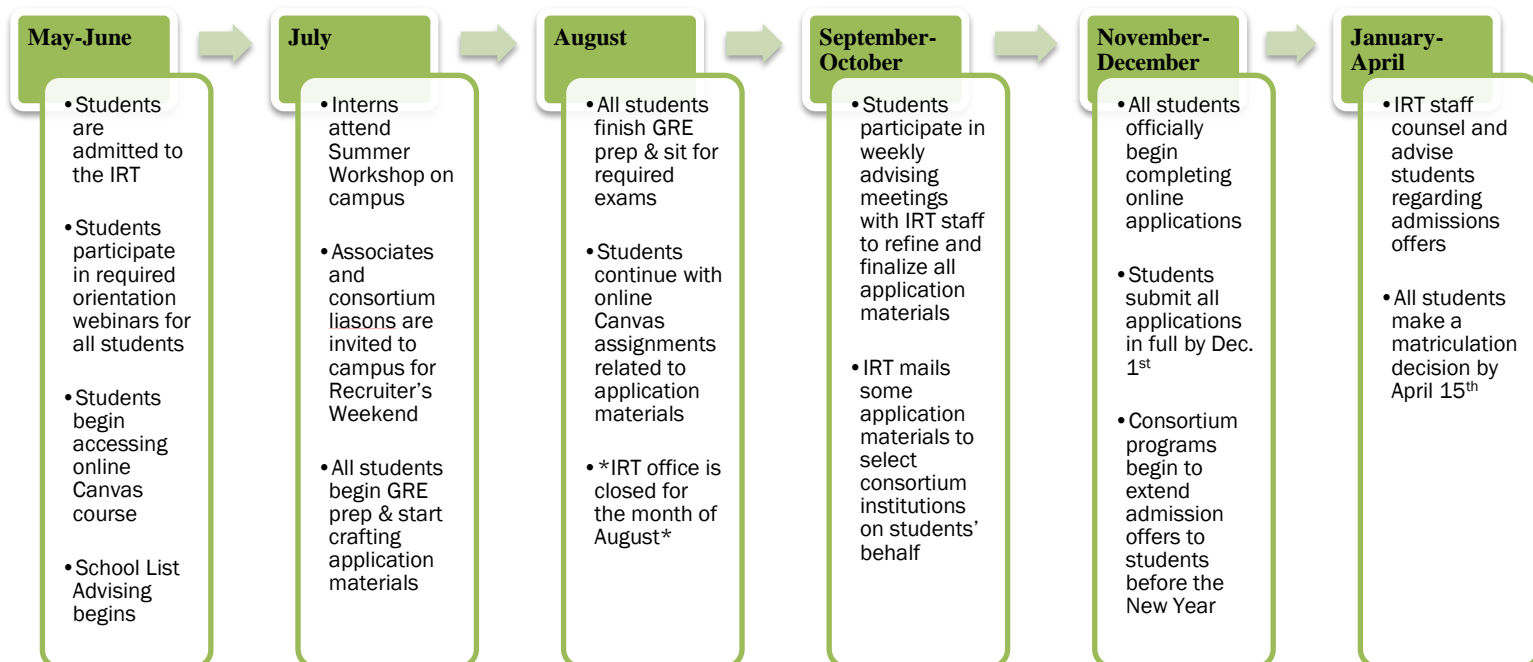
9. Does the IRT pay for application fees?

The IRT does not pay for application fees. The consortium schools waive the application fees for IRT students.

10. Can I apply to a school outside of the consortium?

IRT students **must** apply to 10-12 institutions within our consortium. You may still apply to schools outside of the consortium; however, the IRT will be unable to assist in the application process for those schools.

11. What is the timeline for the IRT program and graduate school application process?



For any other questions, please contact Monica Reum,
Recruitment & Admission Program Specialist at mreum@andover.edu