

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Individuals looking to enroll at Luther Rice must first apply with the Office of Admissions and Records. Individuals are encouraged to apply online via the Luther Rice website www.LutherRice.edu/apply. Applications can also be submitted via the paper application found at the back of this catalog. When the required admissions documents are received from the applicant, including the application fee, the Office of Admissions and Records will begin the final acceptance process. The applicant will then be notified of a decision in a timely manner by email and/or standard mail.

When considering an application, the Office of Admissions and Records reviews and assesses the applicant's academic record, personal testimony for Jesus Christ, and character reference. Luther Rice reserves the right to consider other personal information if made available (e.g., social media). An applicant's academic record must satisfy the respective degree requirements. The testimony and character reference must provide evidence of the Christian faith and Christian character. Doctor of Ministry applicants have additional requirements for admission (see pg. 11). If the applicant meets the required criteria for acceptance, the applicant is admitted to Luther Rice until completion of the program or becomes inactive (see "Readmission Policies" on Pg. 12).

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Apply online at www.LutherRice.edu/apply or submit the application found at the back of this catalog with appropriate fee.
2. Have official transcripts* sent directly to Luther Rice. An official transcript request form is found online and in the back of this catalog. Transcripts from foreign institutions will be evaluated by Luther Rice. Evaluations may require the applicant to submit their transcript to a third party agency for a determination of U.S. Equivalency. Agencies will charge a fee for their services that is payable by the applicant.
3. Have the completed Christian character reference form sent to Luther Rice. The form will be emailed to the reference once the application is submitted.
4. Complete the Bible content test online. This diagnostic test is part of the admissions process but does not determine eligibility to enter Luther Rice.
5. Doctoral students have additional requirements for admission (see p. 11).
6. Not-for-credit certificate students have lesser requirements for admission (see pg. 10).

All required admissions documents must be received before a transcript review and course recommendations are possible.

The online application is found at LutherRice.edu/apply. A paper application form is found at the back of this catalog.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

General

Acceptance to a degree program at Luther Rice will be granted only after evaluation of the application, reference form, personal testimony, Bible knowledge exam, and official transcripts. The application must be accompanied by the appropriate fee (see Tuition and Fees Pg. 19).

The applicant must also acknowledge that all of the application information is true and that they will adhere to the Standards of Conduct for as long as they are a student of Luther Rice. They must affirm their belief in the Luther Rice College and Seminary Doctrinal Statement. Further, the applicant must indicate that they have read and will abide by the financial and privacy policies of Luther Rice. Finally, the applicant must indicate that they have read and will respect the institution's mission, philosophy, and outcomes. Information proven to be false on the application may result in dismissal.

Certificate Programs

Luther Rice College and Seminary offers for-credit and not-for-credit certificates.

Not-for-credit Certificates

Applicants desiring entrance to the not-for-credit certificate program are to follow the entrance requirements of a non-degree student on page 12. Requirements include an application and fee, most recent transcript, and brief testimony. Apply by visiting www.LutherRice.edu/apply.

For more information regarding the not-for-credit certificate program curriculum and course offerings, please refer to page 75.

For-credit Certificates

Undergraduate Certificates

Applicants desiring entrance into the undergraduate certificate program must have completed the requirements for a high school diploma with a minimum GPA of 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale). Applicants who wish to enter with a high school GPA less than 2.0 or with a GED will enter by probation and be automatically enrolled in the Academic Success Program (ASP) for a minimum period of 3 semester hours. Students enrolled in the ASP will receive mandatory Academic Advising and must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA while completing a maximum of 3 hours per semester. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 to continue their studies with Luther Rice.

Graduate Certificates

Applicants desiring entrance into the graduate certificate program must demonstrate satisfactory completion of a bachelor's degree or its equivalent with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 (on a 4.0 point scale).

Bachelor's degree equivalency is understood in the sense that the applicant has satisfactorily completed 120 semester hours of recognized college-level work in which the applicant received at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale).

Bachelor's Program

Applicants desiring entrance into the Bachelor degree program must have completed the requirements for a high school diploma with a minimum GPA of 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale).

Applicants who wish to enter with a high school GPA less than 2.0 or with a GED will enter by probation and be automatically enrolled in the Academic Success Program (ASP) for a minimum period of 12 semester hours. Students enrolled in the ASP will receive mandatory Academic Advising and must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA while completing a maximum of 6 hours per semester. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 in order to continue their studies with Luther Rice.

Master's Programs

All master's programs require satisfactory completion of a bachelor's degree or its equivalent with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 (on a 4.0 point scale).

Bachelor's degree equivalency is understood in the sense that the applicant has satisfactorily completed 120 semester hours of recognized college-level work in which the applicant received at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale). No bachelor's degree will be awarded to an applicant entering a master's program by equivalency.

Applicants who desire to enter the Master of Divinity with Languages track must have obtained an undergraduate GPA minimum of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).

Doctoral Program

The following admissions requirements will be evaluated on a cumulative basis for those who apply to the Doctor of Ministry degree program.

1. A Master of Divinity degree from an institution with accreditation recognized the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants who have not earned a Master of Divinity degree but hold a Master of Arts degree in Bible or theology may take additional course work in Bible and theology totaling 90 hours in order to be evaluated for academic equivalency. Masters degrees other than those in biblically or theologically related subjects will not be considered for academic equivalency.
2. A two page paper detailing an acceptable, verifiable employment experience in a specific area of ministry (e.g., pastor, church staff, missionary, parachurch ministry leader or staff); an acceptable, verifiable two-year history of active Christian ministry showing good professional standing, adherence to the fundamentals of the Christian faith, and good Christian character and conduct; an acceptable, verifiable ministry laboratory in which the applicant can pursue the required project (e.g., church, mission field, or parachurch field of ministry); and how the Doctor of Ministry Program will benefit the student in his/her ministry.

3. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in approved graduate-level work.
4. Submission of a research paper adhering to the Graduate Committee guidelines (available in the Admissions Office and Records or online at www.LutherRice.edu).

Non-Degree Student

A non-degree student is one desiring to take only a limited number of courses for credit, without enrolling in an official degree program. Students wanting to use Luther Rice course credits to transfer to another institution would fall into this category. A non-degree student is coded as a *Special Student* in the Luther Rice computer database. Non-degree students may complete undergraduate and graduate courses, not doctoral.

The process for acceptance as a non-degree student is as follows:

1. Submit a completed Application, along with the application fee, to the Admissions and Records Office. Select Special Student/Non-Degree as the degree program.
2. Submit an official letter from your current institution's Registrar stating that you are a student in good standing and what program of study you are enrolled, or a copy of the transcript of the highest degree earned. If the student is not currently enrolled in another institution, the most recent post-secondary transcript must be submitted.
3. Submit a statement describing your conversion experience, including what a person must do to receive eternal life and when you personally took that step.
4. When all the required documents are received by Luther Rice, the application file will be reviewed. You will be notified by mail of your admissions status.

A non-degree student is subject to all current institutional policies, including but not limited to financial, academic, and behavioral requirements.

Readmission Policies

The following students are dropped from active status and are required to complete a readmission application for readmission:

Certificate Students

1. Any student who does not attempt at least one course within 12 months of acceptance.
2. Any student who voluntarily withdraws.
3. Any student suspended for academic or disciplinary reasons.
4. Students who graduate.

Any previous balance owed to Luther Rice must be paid at the time of readmission. A former student who applies for readmission, if accepted, will reenter his or her program at the tuition rate, degree requirements, and policies in effect at the time of the readmission.

If a student had been sponsored, any documentation from a former sponsor is considered void. It is the student's responsibility to request that the sponsor furnish new documentation.

Bachelor and Master level Students

1. Any student who does not attempt at least one course in a 12-month time period.
2. Any student who does not complete his program within the specified length of time (see Program Time Limitations - Pg. 58).
3. Any student who voluntarily withdraws.
4. Any student suspended for academic or disciplinary reasons.
5. Students who graduate.

Any previous balance owed to Luther Rice must be paid at the time of readmission.

A former student who submits an application for readmission, if accepted, will reenter his or her program at the tuition rate, degree requirements, and policies in effect at the time of the readmission.

If a student had been sponsored, any documentation from a former sponsor is considered void. It is the student's responsibility to request that the sponsor furnish new documentation.

Doctoral Students

1. Any student who does not complete his program within the specified length of time (see Program Time Limitations, pg. 58).
2. Any student who voluntarily withdraws.
3. Any student suspended for academic or disciplinary reasons.

In order for any earlier work and/or payments to be credited at the time of readmission:

1. Any previous balance owed to Luther Rice must be paid upon readmission.
2. If accepted, the student will reenter at the then current tuition rates and degree requirements.
3. Completed academic work in the D.Min. program that is older than the maximum program time limitations (see Program Time Limitations, pg. 58) may not be counted toward degree requirements at readmission.

If all the requirements listed above cannot be met at the time of readmission, the student must apply to enter the doctoral program as a new student. No earlier academic work or financial payments will be credited toward the degree.

Change of Degree

Students may be enrolled in only one degree program at a time unless prior approval is given by Luther Rice Administration. To change a degree program, please submit a readmission application, select change of degree and pay the appropriate fee. Students wishing to complete both a Master of Arts degree and a Master of Divinity degree must complete the Master of Arts degree first. Students who complete the Master of Divinity degree will only be allowed to enroll in a Master of Arts degree that have six (6) or less credit hours in common with the student's completed Master of Divinity.

Students who have completed a Master of Arts degree and desire to complete a second Master of Arts degree, will not be eligible for application if the second Master of Arts degree has more than six (6) credit hours in common with the previous degree.

Transfer of Credit

The Transfer of Academic Credit Policy and Procedures explains how Luther Rice College and Seminary evaluates, awards, and accepts academic credit not originating from the institution.

The following provides guidance of how Luther Rice College and Seminary transfers academic credit not originating from the institution.

Evaluating, awarding, and accepting academic credit not originating from Luther Rice is conducted in accordance with institutional policies and procedures informed by the Joint Statement on Transfer and Award of Credits. The Luther Rice Transfer of Academic Credit Policies and Procedures are developed and approved by the Luther Rice Office of Admissions and Records and Faculty and disseminated in various forms to Luther Rice constituents via the Luther Rice Catalog, Student Handbook, Admissions Policies and Procedures Manual, and website.

Students enrolling in bachelor's or master's programs may transfer approved courses of the same degree level for which they received a grade of "C" or better from an institution external to Luther Rice with accreditation recognized by the Council of Higher Education (CHEA) or the U.S. Department of Education.

Luther Rice aims to provide consideration for students requesting transfer of credit. Luther Rice considers transfer of credit for academic work completed at another institution for both on-campus and distance learning education courses. The following reflects the maximum number of transfer credits possible in each degree program:

Certificate	0 Hours
Bachelor of Arts in Religion	90 Hours
Master of Arts	6 Hours
Master of Divinity	45 Hours
Doctor of Ministry	0 Hours

If necessary, Luther Rice reserves the right to request information from the institution in question to assess comparability of transfer credits. Information requested may include catalogues, syllabi, program learning outcomes, course descriptions, and direct contact with faculty and/or staff at institutions in questions.

Luther Rice will make every reasonable effort to award transfer credits toward the specific requirements of each degree. Credits reflected on a transcript from another institution may or may not be awarded by Luther Rice bearing the same nature as those awarded by the transferring institution. Previous work, because of its nature and not necessarily its inherent quality, may be considered for elective credit only based on the specific degree requirements pursued by the student at Luther Rice.

In addition to institutional credits, students may receive credit for other completed educational accomplishments. Luther Rice acceptance of non-instructional credit is limited to the military (Joint Service Transcript), CPE (Continuing Practical Education), and CLEP (College Level Examination Program). All other forms of experiential learning, prior learning assessments, credit by examination, or conversion of prior noncredit experiences are not eligible for transfer. Luther Rice does not offer transfer of credit for advanced placement or remedial courses and does not maintain any articulation agreements with other institutions.

Luther Rice accepts CLEP (College Level Examination Program) scores that meet the American Council on Education recommendations for undergraduate credit. The tests require a fee and can be taken at various locations (see www.collegeboard.com/clep). The scores must be sent directly to Luther Rice to be accepted and must be comparable to the Luther Rice degree requirements. For more information on what CLEP tests could be accepted at Luther Rice, contact the Office of Admissions and Records. Luther Rice recommends that all CLEP tests be taken at least one year prior to the student's anticipated graduation date.

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) credits are evaluated using the same criteria listed above. In addition, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, in conjunction with the appropriate Program Coordinator, evaluates the clinical clock hours accrued, learning outcomes, and assessment procedures to determine proficiency and awarding credit. Students who desire to enroll in a Clinical Pastor Education program may be awarded credit towards their program of study. Each application is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Students must submit a written request to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for approval.

Transcripts from foreign institutions will be evaluated by Luther Rice. In the event the transcript cannot be evaluated by Luther Rice, the applicant will be required to submit their transcript to a third party agency for a determination of U.S. equivalency. The agency used must be approved/certified by either The National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or The Association of Credential Evaluators (AICE). Agencies will charge a fee for their services and is payable by the applicant.

Luther Rice requires official transcripts for admission. Students who need an official transcript sent to Luther Rice may send it electronically to Transcripts@LutherRice.edu or by mail to Luther Rice College & Seminary, Attn: Admissions, 3038 Evans Mill Rd., Lithonia, GA 30038. Transcripts must be received directly from an institution to be considered official.

Students who have questions regarding the transfer of credit to Luther Rice should contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 770-484-1204. Transfer of credit appeals are to be submitted in writing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who may refer the matter to the appropriate faculty committee. The Vice President's decision is final.

Appealing Admission Denials

When applicants do not meet the regular admission, readmission, or change of degree requirements for entrance into an academic program, they will be notified of denial by the Office of Admissions and Records. Such decisions may be appealed by applicants who believe that extenuating circumstances are responsible for their failure to meet the requirements for admission. Appeals are to be submitted in writing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who may refer the matter to the appropriate faculty committee. The Vice President's decision is final.

Students who enter an academic program through the appeals process, without meeting the regular admissions requirements, may, at the discretion of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, be admitted on condition of satisfactory performance in the first year of study. Such students will be notified of the probation or other conditions that apply when notified of their acceptance. Failure to fulfill such conditions may result in prolonged probation or dismissal.

OTHER ADMISSIONS ITEMS

Applicant File Retention

Applicant file documents will be retained in the Office of Admissions and Records for a period of twelve months. If the prospective student's admission is not finalized in twelve months, the applicant documents will be destroyed.

Audits

An auditor is one desiring to take a limited number of courses for which credit is not received. Auditors pay only a \$100.00 attendance fee per course. Audited courses cannot be converted to courses for academic credit, no exceptions. The auditing form is available from the Office of Admissions and Records. Online courses cannot be audited.

Felony Convictions

Admission will be denied for any applicant that reports a felony in current adjudication or a past felony conviction.

Online Orientation

Upon acceptance, all new students will be given access to an Online Orientation that serves as a guide to being successful at Luther Rice. The orientation is accessible via a link provided in the acceptance email. Students may also access the orientation on the Luther Rice website and via the Student Portal MyCampus.

Registration Clearance

All first-time students and transfer students with a cumulative GPA of 2.3 or lower must receive clearance from an academic advisor prior to course registration. To obtain registration clearance, these students must contact the Academic Advising Office for assistance. An advisor is available by email or telephone during regular office hours. Please send your message to AAO@LutherRice.edu or call (770) 484-1204 or (800) 442-1577, extension 5754. (See Academic Advisement Services, Pg 37).

Transcript Submissions Requirements

The following official transcripts (based on applicants requested degree level) must be submitted by mail or email directly to Luther Rice from previous schools:

- Undergraduate Applicants: High School or GED and transcripts of all college coursework completed.
- Graduate/Seminary Applicants: Transcripts required from completed undergraduate degree and any prior graduate coursework or degree. NOTE: A high school transcript is only required for undergraduate applicants.
- Doctoral Applicants: Transcript from a completed graduate degree in theology.

Mail official transcripts directly to: Luther Rice College & Seminary, ATTN: Admissions, 3038 Evans Mill Road, Lithonia, GA 30038. Official transcripts can also be emailed directly from previous schools to the Office of Admissions and Records at transcripts@lutherrice.edu.



"My experience at Luther Rice has truly been rewarding. My understanding of the Bible and Christian theology has matured and been strengthened upon a firmer foundation. The Luther Rice administration, faculty, and staff have nurtured my role as a student and my role in the local church."

Ryan Greene, Student Government Association President, Master of Arts in Christian Studies Graduate and Master of Divinity Student