

RI Direct School Admission for Junior Colleges (RI DSA-JC) Criteria & Schedule

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RI DSA-JC Domains

- ▶ The DSA-JC Exercise is open to all students in the Sec 4E/5NA GCE O-Level graduating cohort studying in mainstream secondary schools. Students with special talents and achievements can apply to RI directly. Successful students are guaranteed a place in RI provided they meet the [admission eligibility to qualify for JC](#), based on their GCE O-Level results.

- ▶ RI offers direct admission through various Talent Areas under these 4 domains:
 1. Academic domain
 2. Leadership & Character domain
 3. Performing Arts domain
 4. Sports domain

- ▶ Applicants can only apply for **ONE Talent Area**.
 - Applicants must be certain of their preferred Talent Area before submitting their application.
 - Multiple entries will result in all submissions from the applicant being voided.
 - Requests to switch Talent Areas will not be entertained.

- ▶ This document contains two annexes for your reference:
 - Annex A:** Minimum criteria for Sports & Performing Arts domains
 - Annex B:** Frequently asked questions for RI DSA-JC

1. Academic Domain

1.1 You should be able to demonstrate interest and talent beyond the abilities of your peers in one of the Academic Talent Areas listed below.

DSA Domain	Academic
Talent Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Language Elective Programme - Malay (MLEP)● Mathematics / Science Olympiad● Science Research
DSA Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● MLEP students must offer H2 Malay Language & Literature.● Mathematics / Science Olympiad students must participate in their respective Olympiads.● Science Research students will participate in science research under the supervision of either an internal or external research supervisor.

1.2 For the Language Elective Programme - Malay (MLEP), you should demonstrate a strong talent and interest in Malay Language and Literature as well as a passion for Malay culture.

1.3 Minimum criteria for the MLEP Talent Area:

- Grade B3 in Higher Malay Language or
- Grade B4 in Higher Malay Language and B3 in Literature in Malay (Full or Elective) or
- Grade A2 in Malay Language

1.4 MLEP applicants are required to complete an oral discussion task as part of the selection process. Applicants will be presented with two topics related to Malay culture or literature and are to select one topic for discussion. Applicants will be given 3 minutes to prepare their response, after which they will be required to present and discuss their ideas in Malay during the interview. Interviewers may pose follow-up questions to assess the applicant's ability to elaborate on and respond to the topic.

1.5 Successful applicants under this Talent Area will be enrolled in the MLEP and will need to offer H2 Malay Language & Literature.

1.6 For **MLEP** - You are strongly encouraged to apply **before 28 May 2026**.

1.7 For the **Mathematics / Science Olympiad** Talent Area, you should have a history of accomplished performance in the Mathematics / Science Olympiad at the national or international level (e.g. Gold Award).

1.8 For the **Science Research** Talent Area, you should have a history of accomplished performance in science research at the national level (e.g. the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair) or at the international level.

2. Leadership & Character Domain

2.1 You should be able to demonstrate consistent leadership contributions to your school and sustained service to the community through the following:

- Good character and conduct rating for the past two years
- Records of leadership experience and contributions for the past two years
- VIA records demonstrating sustained service to the community

DSA Domain	Leadership & Character
Talent Area	Students demonstrating outstanding leadership qualities or who are in the following leadership roles may consider applying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCA Leaders • VIA Leaders • Prefects • Students' Council • Or equivalent
DSA Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific CCA commitment is tied to this domain. • Successful Leadership & Character candidates are expected to step forward in a CCA and projects of their choosing, actively contributing to a positive school culture.

3. Performing Arts Domain

3.1 You should be able to demonstrate interest and talent beyond the abilities of your peers in one of the Performing Arts Talent Areas listed below.

DSA Domain	Performing Arts
Talent Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chamber Ensemble • Chinese Orchestra • Chorale (Choir) • Symphonic Band (Concert Band)
DSA Commitment	Required to join DSA-CCA, participate in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) or equivalent.

3.2 You must have a track record of performance in this area at the national or international level.

3.3 The criteria for each Performing Arts Talent Area are stated in **Annex A**.

4. Sports Domain

4.1 You should be able to demonstrate interest and talent beyond the abilities of your peers in one of the Sports Talent Areas listed below.

DSA Domain	Sports
Talent Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Badminton ● Basketball ● Cricket (Boys) ● Cross Country ● Fencing ● Floorball ● Football ● Hockey ● Netball (Girls) ● Rugby (Boys) ● Sailing ● Shooting ● Softball ● Squash ● Swimming ● Table Tennis ● Tennis ● Track and Field ● Water Polo (Boys)
DSA Commitment	Required to join DSA-CCA, participate in the National School Games (NSG) or equivalent.

4.2 For your selected sport, you must have a history of accomplished performance at the national or international level. The criteria for each Sports Talent Area are stated in **Annex A**.

RI DSA-JC APPLICATION PERIOD

Application Opens	06 May 2026, 9am
Application Closes	30 Jun 2026, 12pm
Selection Window	20 May 2026 - 10 Jul 2026
Notification of DSA-JC Outcome	28 Jul 2026 - 11 Aug 2026
MOE Acceptance Stage	12 - 14 Aug 2026
MOE JC Allocation	Jan 2027

- ▶ Application opens on **06 May 2026, 9am** and closes on **30 Jun 2026, 12pm**.
- ▶ You are strongly encouraged to submit your applications **EARLY**, to ensure the following:
 1. Shortlisted applicants can undergo trials / auditions / interviews prior to the June school holidays. This circumvents the influx of submissions near the end of June. Students are strongly advised against submitting their applications at the last minute, to avoid any potential issues due to insufficient application information or with the online form.
 2. Early submission allows shortlisted applicants to be scheduled for the 1st Selection Window. This avoids clashing with their preparations for the GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Language papers.

- GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Written papers on 02 Jun 2026.
- GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension on 07 Jul 2026.
- GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Oral Examinations from 13 Jul 2026 to 17 Jul 2026.

(retrieved from SEAB: <https://www.seab.gov.sg/important-dates-for-candidates/>)

RI DSA-JC SELECTION WINDOWS

- ▶ Students may refer to the Selection Windows below to plan their RI DSA-JC submissions, taking into account their school activities, June Holidays and GCE O-Level Mother Tongue examinations.

Domain	1 st Selection Window* <i>*Strongly Recommended</i>	2 nd Selection Window	3 rd Selection Window
Sports, Performing Arts	Apply by 20 May 2026, 12pm for trials between 25 May - 05 Jun 2026	Apply by 27 May 2026, 12pm for trials between 02 Jun - 05 Jun 2026	Apply by 30 Jun 2026, 12pm for trials between 01 Jul - 10 Jul 2026
Academic	Apply by 28 May 2026, 12pm for shortlisting between 30 Jun - 07 Jul 2026	Apply by 30 Jun 2026, 12pm for shortlisting between 30 Jun - 10 Jul 2026	-
Leadership & Character	Apply by 28 May 2026, 12pm for shortlisting between 01 - 02 Jul 2026	Apply by 21 Jun 2026, 12pm for shortlisting between 08 - 09 Jul 2026	Apply by 30 Jun 2026, 12pm for shortlisting between 08 - 10 Jul 2026

- ▶ For **Sports** and **Performing Arts** domains:
 - Apply by **20 May 2026, 12pm** to be considered for the 1st selection window.
- ▶ For **Academic** and **Leadership & Character** domains:
 - Apply by **28 May 2026, 12pm** to be considered for the 1st selection window.
- ▶ Please note that the dates stated above may be subject to change due to inclement weather for Sports and / or unavailable slots. Where applicable, shortlisted applicants will be informed of a replacement date.
- ▶ Only shortlisted applicants will be notified to attend the Selection Interviews, Auditions, Trials, and / or Tests.
- ▶ Applicants who apply within earlier windows but are not notified for Selection Interviews, Auditions, Trials, and / or Tests are still considered for later rounds - up till the end of RI's Selection Window on 10 Jul 2026.

APPLICATION

- ▶ The RI DSA-JC online Application Form is available at this link:
<https://go.gov.sg/ri-dsa-jc-2026>
 - The online application form will open on 06 May 2026, 9am.
 - Applicants should prepare the relevant supporting documents (see below) before starting. The form will take about 15 to 30 minutes to complete.
- ▶ Applicants are required to provide their **personal email address** and **handphone number**, both of which will serve as the primary means of communication. **Do not use school-issued email addresses.**
- ▶ **Supporting Documents (in softcopy)** - Please prepare the following documents:
 1. **[Compulsory]** End of Year (EOY) Academic Progress Report - Overall Results
 - Express stream: Sec 2 & 3 EOY Academic Progress Report - Overall Results
 - Normal Academic (NA) stream: Sec 3 & 4 EOY Academic Progress Report - Overall Results
 2. **[Compulsory]** Latest Term 1 and Term 2 Progress Report / Result Slips
 - Express stream: Sec 4 Term 1 & Term 2 Progress Report / Result Slips
 - Normal Academic (NA) stream: Sec 5 Term 1 & Term 2 Progress Report / Result Slips
 3. **[Compulsory]** Co-curriculum Certificate for Secondary
 - Official Co-curricular Activities (CCA) & Values in Action (VIA) records and achievements obtained from your school
 4. **[Optional]** Awards, Community Service / Projects, that demonstrate your character and talents

5. **[Optional]** Current scholarships offer letter if any (e.g. ASEAN, School-based Scholarship, etc)
 6. **[Compulsory for HMTL students]** Official GCE-O Level Mother Tongue Language Certificate for students taking Higher Mother Tongue Language
 7. **[Optional]** Personal Statement of up to 300 words to support your application
- ▶ Teachers' testimonials are **not required**. This is to avoid imposing unnecessary obligations and expectations on your teachers.
 - ▶ Students who have not yet received their Term 2 Progress Report / Result Slip at the time of application may proceed to submit their application without this set of results. They should indicate 'NA' under the relevant segment. Subsequently, students will be notified to submit their Result Slip **by the application closing date**.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- ▶ Meeting all criteria does not guarantee that applicants will be shortlisted or given an offer.
- ▶ We will not disclose details of the DSA-JC selection process or interviews, and reserve the right to neither discuss nor disclose reasons for non-selection.
- ▶ Students who have been successfully posted to a school via DSA-JC are not allowed to participate in the Joint Admissions Exercise (JAE). They will also not be allowed to transfer to another school after the release of the GCE O-Level examination results.
- ▶ They are expected to honour their commitment to the DSA-JC school and to participate in activities related to their Talent Area - for the duration of the programme they are admitted to. Students who do not fulfil their DSA-JC commitment without any valid reason may be required to transfer out to another school.

CONTACTS

- ▶ For enquiries regarding the Sports and Performing Arts Domains, please contact us at the following:
 - **Sports**-related queries: dsa-jc.sports@ri.edu.sg
 - **Performing Arts**-related queries: dsa-jc.pa@ri.edu.sg
- ▶ For all other general enquiries on the DSA-JC exercise or admission matters, please email admissions@ri.edu.sg or call 6419 9231.

ANNEX A: Minimum Requirements for Sports & Performing Arts Domain

► To determine whether you should apply for a particular Sport or Performing Arts Talent Area, we have listed the minimum criteria that you should have achieved in that Talent Area.

Sports Talent Areas	
Badminton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (First Team, Top 4 in zone) or in MOE-recognised individual competition 2026 (Top 4), or • Junior Performance Programme player in 2026
Basketball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (First Team, Top 4 in zone), or • Selected for Singapore Schools or BAS U16 or U18 or Regional Training Centre in 2026 / 2025, or • Competitive experience in any local tournaments for an external club / team
Cricket (Boys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school and starting 11 for 2026 NSG • Playing experience with clubs, national youth team or national team
Cross Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG • Top 40 position in 2026 NSG individual race, or • 2.4km NAPFA results in 2026 (< 9 min for boys; <10 min for girls)
Fencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (Top 4 finish) • Participated in Fencing Singapore-endorsed competitions (Top 4 finish) in 2026 or 2025
Floorball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys: Represented school in 2026 NSG (First Team, Top 4 in Zone), or member of U19 training squad • Girls: Represent school in 2026 NSG (First Team)
Football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 or 2025 NSG (First Team), or • Selected to train or represent Development Centre or National Development Centre age group team
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (Top 4 in Zone), or • Member of School's Hockey CCA or external clubs for the past 4 years
Netball (Girls)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (top 4 in Zone), or • Selected to represent National U17 (2025, 2026)
Rugby (Boys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG, or • Member of school's Rugby CCA or external Rugby Club for the past 4 years
Sailing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (ILCA 4 / ILCA 6) • Competed in external regattas in 2025 or 2026
Shooting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Top 10 positions in 2026 NSG or NUS/NTU Invitational Shoot or other competitions organised by Singapore Shooting Association (e.g. SG Cups)

(Continued on next page)

Sports Talent Areas (continued)

Softball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school at 2026 or 2025 NSG • Experience with external clubs, or member of National Youth Team
Squash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (top 3 teams in NSG), or • Graded player or club representative or National Junior trainee
Swimming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG • Finalist in 2026 NSG
Table Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (First Team) • Member of National Youth Team
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (First Team)
Track and Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG • Semi-finalist for Track NSG, top 12 for Field events in 2026 NSG
Water Polo (Boys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented school in 2026 NSG (First Team)

Performing Arts Talent Areas

Chamber Ensemble	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum ABRSM Grade 8 or equivalent in either Violin, Viola, Cello, or Double bass practical • Participated in SYF 2025 • Continual participation in String Ensemble / Orchestra from Sec 1 to Sec 4 • Violists and violinists with experience playing the viola, or double bassists will be preferred
Chinese Orchestra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum Grade 6 and above from any major Grading Exam recognised in Singapore, e.g. CI-NTU grading exams, NAFA CCOM grading exams, etc. • Participated in CO / Chinese Instruments Ensemble SYF in 2025 / 2026
Chorale (Choir)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continual participation in Choir from Sec 1 to Sec 4 • Participated in SYF in 2025 • Students who have the potential for leadership and / or who have demonstrated a capacity for leadership are preferred
Symphonic Band (Concert Band)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students with experience playing in a concert band and / or orchestra • Participated in SYF in 2025 preferred

ANNEX B: Frequently Asked Questions on RI DSA-JC

Application and Selection Process

Q1: What kind of DSA-JC student is Raffles Institution looking for?

We are a vibrant community, grounded in respect. While we are looking out for outstanding talent and achievement across diverse domains, we value, as well, strength of character and compassion. RI seeks to admit students who will not only strive for excellence in their respective domains, but also care for others and contribute to the life of our community.

Q2: What are the selection criteria for DSA?

Applicants will be evaluated on the following:

- a) Quality of participation and / or achievements in the selected Talent Area.
- b) Exemplary conduct and personal qualities (e.g. integrity, discipline, resilience, leadership, etc).
- c) Consistently good academic performance particularly at upper secondary examinations. This ensures that students can manage the demands of the GCE A-Level curriculum, in addition to their DSA-JC commitment(s).

Q3: How many DSA-JC applicants will RI be taking in this year?

The number of students admitted depends on the available DSA-JC places allocated to RI. RI does not have a set quota per Talent Area as the number varies each year, depending on the quantity and quality of the applicant pool.

Q4: If I wish to apply for DSA-JC through the Sports or Performing Arts domains, may I prepare and submit videos of my performance?

The DSA-JC exercise will be an in-person selection for all DSA-JC Talent Areas. We will not consider video submissions in our selection of candidates. This ensures that the same mode of assessment is used for all applicants to ensure fairness.

Q5: When will I know if I have been shortlisted for the interviews / trials / auditions?

The announcement of the shortlisted and unsuccessful students will be done in stages within the Selection Window (20 May to 10 Jul 2026). Please wait for an official email from RI to find out if you are shortlisted.

Q6: When will I know if I have been offered a place through DSA-JC, after the interviews / trials / auditions are completed?

Applicants will be informed of their DSA-JC Application Outcome via email between 28 Jul to 11 Aug 2026. Successful applicants will receive an e-Letter of Offer from RI. Unsuccessful applicants will receive an official email notification from admissions@ri.edu.sg.

Q7: Are students under the Integrated Programme (IP) eligible to participate in the RI DSA-JC exercise?

The intent of the DSA-JC exercise is meant for GCE O-Level students to seek admission to a Junior College (JC). The DSA-JC is **NOT** intended as a transfer exercise for IP students, as they are already enrolled in a school to pursue their A-Level examinations. IP students are strongly encouraged to complete and benefit from the tailored curriculum of their current school.

Q8: What are the health and safety measures to take note of during the selection process?

- Applicants are to attend in-person selection only if they are feeling well.
- Applicants who are unwell should inform the DSA-JC Teacher in-charge of their condition / status (e.g. period of Medical Certificate (MC)) to be considered for a re-scheduling of the in-person selection (where possible).

- Applicants are to use their personal equipment whenever possible.

Student Life in RI

Q9: Will all DSA-JC students be placed in the same classes?

No. The allocation of classes is based on students' subject combinations.

Q10: How many H2 subjects will a DSA-JC student be allowed to offer?

Students who have obtained a gross aggregate L1R5 score of 10 or lower at the GCE O-level Examinations will be allowed to offer 4 H2 content-based subjects. If they score 11 points or higher, they are required to offer a 3 H2 + 1 H1 content-based subject combination.

Q11: Are DSA-JC students able to choose their subject combinations, or will RI allocate them prescribed subject combinations?

All students admitted to RI at Year 5 (JC1) will be given an opportunity to select their subject combination. The proposed subject combination must also meet MOE's compulsory requirements. Please visit RI's website for the various subject combinations we offer: (<https://go.gov.sg/ri-alevel-subjectcombination-feb2026>).

Q12: Will DSA-JC students be given extra help if they miss lessons due to competitions? I am concerned about falling behind in my studies.

At RI, we have a comprehensive learning management system that enables students to access online recordings of past lectures. This enables students to catch up on the content taught at their own time. If you need additional help to keep pace with missed lessons or to clarify concepts, you may approach your subject tutors for one-on-one or small group consultations. At the same time, you will need to take ownership of your learning by exercising discipline, managing your time well and pro-actively seeking guidance from teachers.

Q13: Does RI have programmes to help DSA-JC students assimilate into the school?

DSA-JC students will be attending RI's Joint Admissions Exercise (JAE) Induction Programme. During the JAE Induction Programme, Y5 students will be introduced to the various aspects of student life at RI, with talks on academic studies, CCAs, as well as hands-on elective modules. The Year 5 Orientation Programme is another valuable opportunity for the whole cohort - comprising Raffles Programme, DSA-JC and JAE students - to build important friendships.

Q14: As RI is an independent school, I am worried about the school fees. Is financial assistance available to DSA-JC students?

The school is committed to ensuring that an RI education remains accessible to all eligible Singapore Citizen students, regardless of financial background. A range of bursaries and scholarships offered by both RI and MOE is open to all RI students. Please visit the 'Fees and Financial Aid' page on our website for details: <https://www.ri.edu.sg/admissions/fees-and-financial-aid/>.

Questions on Accepting RI's DSA-JC Offer

Q15: If I receive a Letter of Offer from RI, must I accept the offer immediately?

Successful applicants will be given time to consider the offer(s) received from RI and other JCs. Regardless of the number of offers received, each applicant may accept only ONE offer. Students who wish to accept the RI's offer will need their parent / guardian to complete the Acceptance Form and reply to RI using their email addresses during the Acceptance Stage (12 - 14 Aug 2026).

Acceptance Forms are to be submitted latest by **13 Aug 2026, 12pm**. The Acceptance Form must be submitted through an online form - this link will be provided by RI. This will allow RI to verify that all information contained in the form is accurate and complete. Forms that are inaccurate or incomplete will have to be re-submitted and will still be required to meet MOE's official deadline of 14 Aug 2026, 5pm.

Q16: Can I appeal if my DSA-JC application is unsuccessful?

Applicants will be assessed holistically and objectively. The outcome is dependent on various factors such as available places, quality and quantity of applicants, academic results, in-person assessment, etc. The selection panel's decision is final and appeals will not be entertained. We welcome unsuccessful applicants to apply to RI through participation in the following year's Joint Admissions Exercise, after the release of their GCE O-Level results.

Q17: If I have accepted RI's DSA-JC offer, can I change my mind after the release of the GCE O-Level results and choose another Junior College instead?

Applicants who have accepted DSA-JC offers are not allowed to take part in the Joint Admissions Exercise, conducted after the release of the GCE O-Level results. As long as you meet the criteria for admission to Junior College (i.e. gross aggregate L1R5 less than or equal to 20 points and a Pass in English Language) you will be posted to the school whose DSA-JC offer you have accepted. As such, we encourage applicants to consider their decision carefully before accepting the DSA-JC offer.

(refer to MOE website regarding 'Admission matters under Junior Colleges':

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/jae/junior-colleges-and-millennia-institute>)

Q18: I have accepted RI's DSA-JC offer through a particular CCA but did well enough in the GCE O-Level to meet the JAE cut-off points for entry into RI. Can I request to change my CCA?

Applicants who have accepted DSA-JC offers through a particular CCA are required to honour their commitment to that CCA for the duration of their JC education. This is regardless of their GCE O-Level results.