

## RI Direct School Admissions-JC (RI DSA-JC) Criteria & Schedule

### Contents

RI DSA Domains .....	2
1. Sports Domain.....	2
2. Performing Arts Domain.....	3
3. Academic Domain.....	3
4. Leadership & Character Domain .....	4
RI DSA APPLICATION PERIOD .....	5
RI DSA SELECTION WINDOWS .....	5
APPLICATION.....	6
IMPORTANT NOTES.....	6
CONTACTS.....	7
ANNEX A: Minimum Requirements for Sports & Performing Arts Domain .....	7
ANNEX B: Frequently Asked Questions on RI DSA-JC.....	9
Application and Selection Process .....	9
Student Life in RI .....	10
Questions on Accepting RI's DSA Offer .....	11

## RI DSA Domains

- ▶ The DSA-JC Exercise is open to all students in the Sec 4E/5NA O-Level graduating cohort. 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 the 4 domains listed below:
  1. Sports
  2. Performing Arts
  3. Academic
  4. Leadership & Character
- ▶ 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. Sports Domain

1.1 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"><li>● Badminton</li><li>● Basketball</li><li>● Cricket (Boys)</li><li>● Cross Country</li><li>● Fencing</li><li>● Floorball</li><li>● Football</li><li>● Hockey</li><li>● Netball (Girls)</li><li>● Rugby (Boys)</li><li>● Sailing</li><li>● Shooting</li><li>● Softball</li><li>● Squash</li><li>● Swimming</li><li>● Table Tennis</li><li>● Tennis</li><li>● Track &amp; Field</li><li>● Water Polo</li></ul>	
DSA Commitment	Required to join DSA-CCA, participate in NSG or equivalent.	

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

## 2. Performing Arts Domain

2.1 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"><li>• Chamber Ensemble</li><li>• Chinese Orchestra</li><li>• Chorale (Choir)</li><li>• Symphonic Band (Concert Band)</li></ul>
DSA Commitment	Required to join DSA-CCA, participate in SYF or equivalent.

2.2 You must have a history of accomplished performance in this area at the national or international level.

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

## 3. Academic Domain

3.1 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"><li>• <a href="#">Language Elective Programme - Malay (MLEP)*</a></li><li>• Mathematics/Science Olympiad</li><li>• Science Research</li></ul>
DSA Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MLEP students must offer H2 Malay Language &amp; Literature</li><li>• Mathematics /Science Olympiad students must participate in the Olympiads that they are accepted for</li><li>• Science Research students will participate in science research either with an internal or external research supervisor</li></ul>

3.2 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.

3.3 The minimum criteria for the MLEP Talent Area are as follows:

- 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

3.4 MLEP applicants are required to submit an essay together with their application. Please answer **ONE** of the following questions:

1) Bincangkan ciri-ciri seorang pemimpin yang berwibawa.

2) Kecerdasan Buatan (AI) menyebabkan banyak pekerjaan menjadi usang dan lapuk. Berikan komen kamu.

There is an 800 word limit. In submitting your work, you declare that the piece of work is your own and that you have not solicited help from anyone or AI in completing it. Intellectual integrity is a value we emphasise at RI.

Successful applicants under this Talent Area will be enrolled in the MLEP.

3.5 For MLEP - You are strongly encouraged to apply **before 26 May 2025**, to accord enough time for the selection panel to assess your essay prior to the interview (if shortlisted). Submit your essay via <https://go.gov.sg/ridsajc25-mlepessay> after you have completed your RI DSA-JC application.

3.6 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).

3.7 For the Science Research Talent Area, you should have a history of accomplished performance in science research at the national level such as the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair or at the international level.

#### 4. Leadership & Character Domain

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 can consider applying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CCA Leaders</li><li>• VIA Leaders</li><li>• Prefects</li><li>• Students' Council</li><li>• Or equivalent</li></ul>
DSA Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No DSA-CCA commitment.</li><li>• Successful L&amp;C candidates are expected to serve in CCA or projects, and be a role model for the community</li></ul>

## RI DSA APPLICATION PERIOD

Application Opens	07 May 2025
Application Closes	01 Jul 2025
Selection Window	21 May 2025 - 09 Jul 2025
Notification of DSA-JC Outcome	30 Jul 2025 - 12 Aug 2025
MOE Acceptance Stage	13 - 15 Aug 2025
MOE JC Allocation	Jan 2026

- ▶ Application opens on **07 May 2025, 12pm** and **closes on 01 July 2025, 12pm.**
- ▶ You are strongly encouraged to submit your applications **EARLY**, to ensure the following:
  1. Applicants can undergo trials/assessment prior to the June holidays to circumvent the rush of submissions towards the end of June. Students are strongly advised against submitting their applications at the last minute to avoid any potential issues with insufficient application information or with the form.
  2. Early submissions will enable shortlisted applicants to be scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> Selection Window, to avoid clashing with their preparations for O-Level Mother Tongue papers.
    - O-Level MT Written paper on 02 Jun 2025
    - MT Listening Comprehension on 08 Jul 2025
    - Oral Exams from 14 - 18 Jul 2025

## RI DSA SELECTION WINDOWS

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

Domain	1 <sup>st</sup> Selection Window* <i>*Strongly Recommended</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Selection Window	3 <sup>rd</sup> Selection Window
<b>Sports, Performing Arts</b>	Apply by 21 May 2025, 12pm for trials between 26 May - 06 June 2025	Apply by 28 May 2025, 12pm for trials between 03 - 06 June 2025	Apply by 01 Jul 2025, 12pm for trials between 02 - 09 Jul 2025
<b>Academic</b>	Apply by 26 May 2025, 12pm for shortlisting between 18 - 23 June 2025	Apply by 01 Jul 2025, 12pm for shortlisting between 01 - 09 Jul 2025	-
<b>Leadership &amp; Character</b>	Apply by 26 May 2025, 12pm for shortlisting between 18 - 23 June 2025	Apply by 01 Jul 2025, 12pm for shortlisting between 01 - 09 Jul 2025	-

- ▶ For **Sports** and **Performing Arts** domain: Apply by **21 May 2025, 12pm** to be considered for the 1<sup>st</sup> selection window.
- ▶ For **Academic** and **Leadership & Character** domains: Apply by **26 May 2025, 12pm** to be considered for the 1<sup>st</sup> selection window.

- ▶ Please note that the dates stated above are 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, Audition, Trials, and/or Tests.

## **APPLICATION**

- ▶ The RI DSA-JC online Application Form is <https://go.gov.sg/ridsajc25>
  - The online application form will open on 07 May 2025, 12pm.
  - 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. Please do not use school-issued email addresses.
- ▶ Supporting Documents (softcopy) - Please prepare the following documents:
  1. End of Year (EOY) Academic Progress Report for Express (Sec 2 & 3) and NA (Sec 3 & 4).
  2. Weighted Assessment (WA) Result Slip for Express (Sec 4 WA) and NA (Sec 5 WA)
  3. CCA records & Achievements related to the chosen DSA talent area
  4. VIA, Awards, Community Projects, that are evidence of your character and talents
  5. Current scholarships (ASEAN, School-based, etc)
  6. 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 WA result slip at the time of application may proceed with their application without this set of results. They should indicate 'NA' under that segment. Subsequently, students will be notified to submit their WA results by the 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 allocated a school via DSA-JC candidates 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 the talent selected for, for the duration of the programme they are admitted into. Students who do not fulfil their DSA commitment without valid reason may be required to transfer out to another school.

## **CONTACTS**

- For enquiries regarding the Sports and Performing Arts Domain, please contact us at the following:
  - Sports-related queries: [dsa-jc.sports@ri.edu.sg](mailto:dsa-jc.sports@ri.edu.sg)
  - Performing Arts-related queries: [dsa-jc.pa@ri.edu.sg](mailto: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](mailto: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.

<b>Sports Talent Areas</b>	
<b>Badminton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (First Team, Top 4 in zone) or in MOE-recognised individual competition 2025 (Top 4), or</li> <li>• Junior Performance Programme player in 2025</li> </ul>
<b>Basketball</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (First Team, Top 4 in zone), or</li> <li>• Selected for Singapore Schools or BAS U16 or U18 or Regional Training Centre in 2025/2024, or</li> <li>• Competitive experience in any local tournaments for an external club/team</li> </ul>
<b>Cricket (Boys)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school and starting 11 for 2025 NSG</li> <li>• Playing experience with clubs, national youth team or national team</li> </ul>
<b>Cross Country</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG</li> <li>• Top 40 position in 2025 NSG individual race, or</li> <li>• 2.4km NAPFA results in 2025 (&lt; 9 min for boys; &lt;10 min for girls)</li> </ul>
<b>Fencing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (Top 4 finish)</li> <li>• Participated in Fencing Singapore-endorsed competitions (Top 4 finish) in 2025 or 2024</li> </ul>
<b>Floorball</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boys: Represented school in 2025 NSG (First Team, Top 4 in Zone), or member of U19 training squad</li> <li>• Girls: Represent school in 2025 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
<b>Football</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 or 2024 NSG (First Team), or</li> <li>• Selected to train or represent Development Centre or National Development Centre age group team</li> </ul>
<b>Hockey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (Top 4 in Zone), or</li> <li>• Member of School's Hockey CCA or external clubs for the past 4 years</li> </ul>
<b>Netball (Girls)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (top 4 in Zone), or</li> <li>• Selected to represent National U17 (2024, 2025)</li> </ul>
<b>Rugby (Boys)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG, or</li> <li>• Member of school's Rugby CCA or external Rugby Club for the past 4 years</li> </ul>

*(Continued on next page)*

Sports Talent Areas (continued)	
<b>Sailing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (ILCA 4/ILCA 6)</li> <li>• Competed in external regattas in 2024 or 2025</li> </ul>
<b>Shooting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieved Top 10 positions in 2025 NSG or NUS/NTU Invitational Shoot or other competitions organised by Singapore Shooting Association (e.g. SG Cups)</li> </ul>
<b>Softball</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school at 2025 or 2024 NSG</li> <li>• Experience with external clubs, or member of National Youth Team.</li> </ul>
<b>Squash</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (top 3 teams in NSG), or</li> <li>• Graded player or club representative or National Junior trainee</li> </ul>
<b>Swimming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG</li> <li>• Finalist in 2025 NSG</li> </ul>
<b>Table Tennis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (First Team)</li> <li>• Member of National Youth Team</li> </ul>
<b>Tennis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>
<b>Track and Field</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG</li> <li>• Semi-finalist for Track NSG, top 12 for Field events in 2025 NSG</li> </ul>
<b>Water Polo</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represented school in 2025 NSG (First Team)</li> </ul>

Performing Arts Talent Areas	
<b>Chamber Ensemble</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A minimum ABRSM Grade 8 or equivalent in either Violin, Viola, Cello, or Double bass practical</li> <li>• Participated in SYF 2025</li> <li>• Continual participation in String Ensemble/Orchestra from Sec 1 to Sec 4</li> <li>• Violists and violinists with experience playing the viola, or double bassists will be preferred</li> </ul>
<b>Chinese Orchestra</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum Grade 6 and above from any major Grading Exam recognized in Singapore, e.g. CI-NTU grading exams, NAFA CCOM grading exams, etc.</li> <li>• Participated in CO/Chinese Instruments Ensemble SYF in 2024/2025</li> </ul>
<b>Chorale (Choir)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continual participation in Choir from Sec 1 to Sec 4</li> <li>• Participated in SYF in 2025</li> <li>• Student Conductors, Section Leaders will be preferred</li> </ul>
<b>Symphonic Band (Concert Band)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students with experience playing in a concert band and/or orchestra</li> <li>• Participated in SYF in 2025 preferred</li> </ul>

## **ANNEX B: Frequently Asked Questions on RI DSA-JC**

### **Application and Selection Process**

#### **Q1: What kind of DSA talent is Raffles Institution looking for?**

We are looking for students who have outstanding talent and achievements in the Academic, Leadership & Character, Sports or Performing Arts domains.

#### **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 commitments.

#### **Q3: How many DSA applicants will RI be taking in this year?**

The number of students admitted depends on the available DSA 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 through the Sports or Performing Arts domain, can I prepare and submit videos of my performance?**

The DSA-JC exercise will be an in-person selection for all DSA Talent Areas and we will not be considering video submissions in our selection of candidates. This is to ensure 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 and/or auditions?**

The announcement of the shortlisted and unsuccessful students will be done in stages within the Selection Window (21 May to 12 Aug 2025). Please wait for an official email from RI to find out if you are shortlisted for a Trial or an Interview.

#### **Q6: When will I know if I have been offered a place through DSA, after the interviews and/or auditions are completed?**

Applicants will be informed of their DSA-JC Application Outcome via email between 30 Jul to 12 Aug 2025. Successful applicants will receive an e-Letter of Offer from RI. Unsuccessful applicants will receive an official email notification from [admissions@ri.edu.sg](mailto: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 Admissions Exercise is meant for 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 Teacher in-charge of their condition/status (e.g. period of 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 students be placed in the same classes?**

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

### **Q10: How many H2 subjects will a DSA student be allowed to offer?**

Students who have obtained an L1R5 score of 11 or better at the O-level Examinations will be allowed to offer 4 H2 content-based subjects. If they score 12 points or more, they are required to offer 3 H2 + 1 H1 content-based subjects.

### **Q11: Will DSA students be able to select their subject combinations, or will RI allocate them to prescribed subject combinations?**

All students admitted to RI at Year 5 will be given an opportunity to select their subject combinations. The proposed subject combination must also meet MOE's compulsory requirements. You can visit the 'Learning at RI' page on Raffles Institution's website for the various subject combinations we offer: (<http://www.ri.edu.sg/learning-at-ri/year-5-6>)

### **Q12: Will DSA 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 can 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 students assimilate into the school?**

DSA students will be attending RI's January Induction Programme (JIP) along with the Raffles Programme intake, i.e. students from RI Year 1-4 and RGS. During the JIP, 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 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 students?**

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

## Questions on Accepting RI's DSA 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 to complete the Acceptance Form and reply to RI using their email address during the Acceptance Stage (13 – 15 Aug 2025).

Acceptance Forms are to be submitted latest by **14 Aug 2025, 5pm**. 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 15 Aug 2025, 5pm.

### **Q16: Can I appeal if my DSA 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. Unsuccessful applicants are welcome to participate in the following year's Joint Admission Exercise after the release of the GCE O-Level results.

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

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

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

Applicants who have accepted DSA 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.