

USA tour med mera Utbildning

*Denna text är ett komplement till produkten "USA tour med mera" (Specialpedagogiska institutet 2004).
Texten motsvarar helt den engelska texten i den aktuella delen av programmet.*

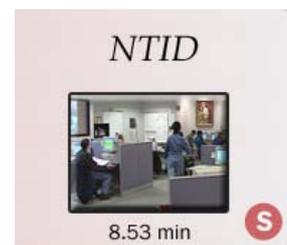
NTID

The Rochester Institute of Technology is located in New York State. It's known as RIT and is a very big university. Deaf students can study at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, or NTID, which is located on the campus of RIT.

NTID is 30 years old and is a relatively new college. This year is our 30th anniversary. We give deaf students opportunities for technical jobs. Many graduate as engineers, architects and designers. We don't educate students for the usual jobs available to the deaf. Instead, we focus on technological jobs.

There's absolutely no conflict between NTID and Gallaudet. King Jordan and I worked together earlier and the schools cooperate. But we focus on different things. Gallaudet focuses on the deaf and students get jobs within deaf culture. We help students get jobs among the hearing in technical fields. We have courses in technology, skilled trades math and chemistry. It depends on what students want. We have strict admission requirements. Most American students don't like math and find our courses demanding. RIT is one of the best American colleges which makes us a little different from Gallaudet.

NTID focuses more on education. My brother goes to Gallaudet and students have a great social life. It's nice. I'm proud of their strong deaf culture, but their classes aren't as good as here. If you graduate from NTID you can continue at RIT and study at the same level as the hearing. NTID has a lot of interpreters. I think it offers a better education.



I'm paying for my education myself and know it's expensive. NTID costs \$12,000 and RIT \$18,000, so it costs a lot of money. Some students get financial aid or government grants once a month. They don't worry about money. I have to work part time to make ends meet.



The program we use is Cift. We use computer-controlled technology. Students learn how to use the machines, which are set up for the production of different products that we use daily for example, cars, boats, medicine and dental equipment. We also offer a program for the design of different products which are used in the production of things such as chemicals and oil.

I have Swedish background. Five generations ago my ancestors came to America. I'm taking the environmental program. We learn how to conserve nature and plant trees for a better world.

I'm from Ireland, where oralism is predominant. Not many people believe in Irish sign language. I grew up with oralism. I didn't know there were interpreters or anything about my rights until I came here. Everything was new, politics and political beliefs. Some are for cochlear implants and oralism and others are against them. Some people are for ASL and have different opinions but I didn't know what to think!

I found ASL hard when I came here. Everyone signed so fast. Then I stayed at a dorm and learned a lot. Then I picked up ASL fast. Since I come from abroad, I had just a little trouble with my English.

When I saw my first American movies, everything looked so perfect. That was my impression until I came here, but it's not like that at all. There are some similarities, but the people and the cities look different. I tried to adapt to the American culture, but it took me three years.