1. **Policy Statement**

The RUconnection RU ID card is the sole official identification card (ID) issued to individuals affiliated with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. RUconnection RU IDs cards are issued to individuals only. RUconnection RU IDs cards are not issued or assigned to departments, or organizations and are not to be used as a way of providing access to individuals not issued the RUconnection RU ID card (e.g., placed in vehicles for use by others). The RUconnection RU ID card remains the property of the university and must be surrendered when requested by an authorized university official. The RUconnection RU ID card is only valid during active employment or registration of the assigned individual. The university has the right to confiscate inactive IDs cards.

2. **Reason for Policy**

To specify the rules, procedures and practices that will address the issuing, encoding, replacing, returning, and displaying of identification cards (IDs) for faculty, staff, students, and others who qualify for the issuance of card IDs. Rutgers University establishes this policy to address those issues related to the use of IDs cards on properties owned or controlled by Rutgers.

3. **Who Should Read This Policy**

All members of the university community.

4. **Resources**

University Policy 30.1.8: Access to University Facilities
University Policy 10.3.6: Dining Services
5. Definitions

A. RUconnection RU ID card – The RUconnection RU ID card is the name of the identification card issued to university faculty, staff, students, guests, and other individuals who have an official affiliation with the university.

B. RUconnection Service Center Card Office – An approved location where the RUconnection RU ID cards are issued. All campuses and off-campus locations utilize a single carding system and set of policies to issue ID cards that are identical in design and function. Full reciprocity allows individuals to use their RUconnection RU ID card to access similar services on any campus. A list of service centers can be found at: http://iam-ipo.rutgers.edu/locations.php.

C. Faculty/Staff – A card category designation for full-time, part-time and temporary staff members, full-time and part-time faculty members, employees of Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC), and Rutgers Foundation units all paid employees.

D. Student – A card category designation for full-time, part-time, and non-matriculated students registered in official university schools and degree programs. Does not include short-term certificates or professional development programs.

E. Guest – A card-category designation for student level guests, visiting scholars (faculty level), affiliates, contractors and trades workers, vendors, affiliates, retirees, volunteers, and/or members of recognized external university affiliated organizations (New Jersey Public Interest Research Group, Campus Ministries, etc.).

F. Affiliates – Individuals who are faculty or staff members, but are not paid through Rutgers.

G. Visiting Scholars – Individuals who are unpaid faculty or post-doctoral visitors to the University.

H. Retiree – A card category designation for separated university employees with official retiree status.

I. Specialty Badges – A card category designation for special badges that may be issued to members of the governing boards and other unique units.

6. The Policy

ELEMENTS OF THE CARD

The information included on the front of the RUconnection RU ID card is as follows:

1. The cardholder’s photo

All RU IDs shall include the cardholder’s choice of legal name or preferred name (as it appears on official transcripts or payroll records) or as indicated via the Office of the Registrar, without social or professional title or degree. In accordance with University practice, an individual can use their preferred name on their ID. Card, as it appears in the University Registrar or Payroll records

2. University affiliation, i.e., department or school information

3. Campus information

4. Issue date

5. Affiliation type, i.e., Faculty/Staff, Student, Guest, etc., based on primary status, as defined below

The information included on the back of the RUconnection card is as follows:

1. Card usage disclaimer and RUconnection Card Office contact information
2. A barcode used for borrowing library materials and accessing related services
3. A 6 digit security code used for miscellaneous verification

Some individuals who do not have authorization to use certain facilities may receive a card without a barcode or certain encoding features. Possession of an RUconnection card does not guarantee access or use of University facilities or services.

Physical or electronic alteration of the RUconnection RU ID card is not permitted. This includes encoding of additional information on unused magnetic stripe (mag-stripe) tracks to allow the RUconnection RU ID card to work in unauthorized or external verification systems.

RUconnection cards feature an electronic photo as part of their design. With the exception of short-term temporary ID cards issued to incoming students, all RUconnection RU ID cards must feature a photo of the identified individual.

Individuals will not be provided with copies (printed or electronic) of their photo. The exclusive nature of these photos promotes security and helps avoid forgery.

I. ISSUANCE AND USAGE OF AN ID CARD

Individuals shall present an unexpired, original form of government-issued photo identification (driver license, passport, etc.) in order to perform transactions in the RUconnection carding offices, including having an RUconnection card issued, renewed or replaced. All transactions must be conducted in person. Family members, co-workers, or supervisors cannot conduct business for others. Individuals lacking proper documentation will not be issued an RUconnection card.

All cardholders are required to have their ID on their person while on any Rutgers campus or work location and are required to produce the card upon request. All members of the Rutgers University community are strongly encouraged to display their RU ID. Guests are required to display their RU ID on their person.

An initial card is issued to employees with active appointments and students registered for the current semester, at no charge.

All individuals must have an active record in the ID carding system, in order to validate their university status. Carding Service Center offices will not issue RUconnection RU ID cards to individuals lacking current active system records.

All transactions must be conducted in person. Family members, co-workers, or supervisors cannot conduct business for others.

Special Guest cards can also be issued to university guests, vendors, and other affiliated individuals after they are sponsored through the University Guest Portal by an authorized representative from a university department or unit. There is an associated fee.

With the exception of special cards issued to incoming students to help them access facilities during their first semester, the University does not issue "temporary" ID cards. All individuals who need to utilize university electronic access systems, including all guests and visitors, must obtain an RUconnection RU ID card issued in their name.

The sharing of IDs is not allowed. Individuals can only possess one RUconnection RU ID card. Those with multiple roles will receive an RUconnection RU ID card that indicates their primary relationship with the University based on the following hierarchy (employees, students, and guests):

- Salaried employees
- Retiree

All policies are subject to amendment. Please refer to the Rutgers University Policy Library website (policies.rutgers.edu) for the official, most recent version.
The RU ID card should reflect the primary university affiliation (e.g., faculty/staff, student). When a change in affiliation occurs, cardholders are required to exchange their RU ID for one that reflects their current primary affiliation status.

In special cases where an employee or student is terminated or otherwise has their university affiliation severed, a governing department may request the immediate suspension of related ID card access, including building and facility access, meal plans, RU Express accounts, etc. Individuals will remain in a suspended status unless a request for reinstatement is received from the governing unit.

Upon separation of service, the employee ID will be deactivated.

Cardholders are expected to take reasonable care in the use and storage of their RU ID card. If cards are to be worn as badges they should be placed in non-destructive holders. All members of the Rutgers University community are strongly encouraged to display their RU ID Card. Specifically, if cards are to be worn as badges, Guests are required to display their RU ID Card. If damage appears intentional, or if all pieces are not surrendered, a replacement fee will be required.

Replacement RU ID cards will not be issued without photo identification. If an individual has lost their wallet or it has been stolen, other forms of ID may need to be replaced (such as a driver's license) prior to requesting a replacement RU ID card.

Cardholders are expected to take reasonable care in the use and storage of their RU ID. Lost RU ID cards must be reported to an RU ID Card Service Center Office immediately so that privileges associated with the card can be suspended. Please report lost IDs to your supervisor and the Identity & Access Management Office at: mailto:iam@ipo.rutgers.edu or by calling 848-445-5050.

There will be a $20 fee charged for the replacement of lost cards. Exceptions: Requests for exceptions to this policy may only be granted by the Executive Vice President for Strategic Planning and Operations and Chief Operating Officer, or a designee.

II. ADHERENCE

Falsifying information to obtain a RU ID card is identity fraud and may incur prosecution and/or administrative sanctions to the full extent of the law and under university policies and rules and regulations.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in discipline up to and including termination.