

GRID Associates of Applied Science

In Arts & Design @ Raritan Valley Community College

GRID (Game and Real-Time Interactive Design) is an interdisciplinary program designed to equip students with the creative and technical skills needed to excel in digital media, game development, and interactive computing. Blending design principles, programming, user experience, and rich media production, the program prepares students for careers in game design, web development, interactive storytelling, and emerging creative technologies. With hands-on projects, industry-standard tools, and a focus on innovation, students build a strong foundation in both artistic and technical aspects of interactive media.

Graduates are able to:

- Design and develop interactive digital experiences, including games, web applications, and multimedia projects, using fundamental programming and design principles.
- Use industry-standard tools and technologies for creative computing, game development, interactive art, and rich media production.
- Solve technical and design challenges in interactive media by applying critical thinking and problem-solving skills in interactive design, user experience, and systems implementation.
- Collaborate effectively in multidisciplinary teams to produce polished, portfolio-ready projects that demonstrate technical and artistic proficiency.
- Stay current with industry trends and emerging technologies, continuously improving their skills for career growth.

Current specialty paths include: **Game Art, Web Development, Game Development, Rich Media Production, and Entrepreneurship.**

Opportunities for Graduates:

- **Estimated Graduates Annually: 20-30**
- **Job Market & Growth Projections:**
 - Multimedia artists and animators: **8% growth (BLS)**
 - Web developers & UX designers: **16% growth (BLS)[1]**
 - Game designers and developers: **Projected strong demand due to industry expansion**
- **Estimated Salaries (NJ, based on listings):[3]**
 - Game Developers: **\$62,500 entry, \$96,250 median**
 - UX/UI Designers: **\$84,150 entry, \$104,800 median**
 - Web Developers: **\$80,000 entry, \$105,000 median**
 - Game Designers: **\$106,000 entry, \$123,400 median**

This program provides a **clear, industry-driven path for graduates to enter high-demand careers** while also allowing for further education opportunities.