

## **RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION INFORMATION**

A residency questionnaire should be submitted at least one month prior to the beginning of the quarter for which the student will request residency. Application received after the thirtieth calendar day of the quarter shall become effective, if granted, the next quarter of the student's registration. To be considered a Washington state resident for tuition calculation purposes, a student must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the U.S. or have a qualifying visa, must have been physically present in Washington state and have established Washington state as their true, fixed and permanent home for purposes other than educational for 12 consecutive months prior to the first day of the quarter for which they are applying for residency. To be considered for eligibility for a given quarter, the student will need to submit supporting documentation of the items listed below. Submitted documentation must show that these items were obtained one year prior to the first day of the quarter for which the student request the change for resident status.

\*\*Effective July 25, 2021, Washington state makes it easier for all Washingtonians, to meet residency requirements for tuition and state financial aid. This law may be met by any student, regardless of citizenship or legal immigration status. To be a resident student under this law (SB 5194), students must:

- Earn a high school diploma, GED, or diploma equivalent before their first term at the college determining residency,
- Maintain a primary residence in Washington for at least 12 consecutive months immediately before their first term at the college determining residency. The Washington residence must be for purposes other than college. If they take any courses at another Washington college during the prior 12 months, they cannot have taken more than six credits in any given term. If they exceed that limit they must prove that they have a Washington residence for non-college reasons., and
- Sign the "Washington State Higher Education Residency Affidavit" saying they meet the above requirements and that one of the following is true:
  - They will file an application to become a permanent resident of the US as soon as they are eligible to apply. And, that they are willing to engage in activities designed to prepare them for citizenship, including citizenship or civics review courses or
  - They are a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or U.S. permanent resident.

### **DEPENDENT STUDENT:**

\*If you are a dependent student, all the documents listed below will be your parents.

### **INDEPENDENT STUDENT:**

- Copy of WA state driver's license;
- Copy of WA state voter's registration card;
- Copy of WA state vehicle registration;
- Copy of lease agreement or home purchase papers;
- Copy of front page of federal income tax return for the previous year;
- Certification of when bank account in WA state was opened;
- Receipt from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) that show the date your application for Permanent Resident status was filed (if applicable);
- Copy of both sides of Permanent Resident Card (if applicable).

**NOTE:** A student **cannot** qualify as a legal resident of Washington for tuition calculation purposes if s/he possesses a valid out-of-state driver's license, vehicle registration, or other documentation that give evidence of being a legal resident in another state.

If the student has filed a **complete** application for a change in resident status by the appropriate deadline & notification of the determination of change of residency status has not been determined prior to the student's registration, the student should seek an "INSTITUTIONAL DELAY OF TUITION" from the Registrar to qualify to delay tuition through the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the quarter. If application to change residency is still pending after the 10<sup>th</sup> day, the student is responsible to pay the full non-resident tuition and fees, otherwise the student will be dropped from non-payment. If residency is granted during the first 30 calendar days of the quarter, the college will refund the non-residency differential. Upon receipt of your completed application and supporting documents, your request to change residency will be reviewed and a notification will be sent to you of the decision.