

Information on Florida Residency for Tuition Classification

Students who are admitted to public-supported postsecondary educational institutions in Florida must complete an affidavit and provide proof of "residency for tuition purposes" in accordance with state law.

1009.21, Florida Statutes (FS) **and 6A-10.044, Florida Administrative Code (FAC)**

Non-U.S. citizen students and/or parents must provide evidence of eligible legal immigration status in the U.S. before being considered for Florida resident fees. Please check with the Registrar's Office at the campus you will attend for more specific information on the non-U.S. citizen categories that are eligible to be considered for in-state fees. International Students and non-U.S. citizens admitted into the United States with the following visas are NOT ELIGIBLE to pay Florida resident fees: B, C, D, F, H4 (if 21 or over), J, M, P and Q.

ALL DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FLORIDA RESIDENCY MUST BE DATED, ISSUED, OR FILED 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS OF THE TERM IN WHICH THE RESIDENCY-FOR-TUITION-PURPOSES CLASSIFICATION IS SOUGHT. ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NO LATER THAN THE 100% REFUND DATE FOR THE TERM IN WHICH FLORIDA RESIDENCY IS BEING REQUESTED OR IT WILL APPLY FOR THE FOLLOWING TERM. *PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NAME(S) LISTED ON ALL DOCUMENTS MUST MATCH.*

If you are under the age of 24, you will be automatically considered "dependent" unless you can prove otherwise (see below). Students age 24 and over will be automatically considered independent unless proven otherwise.

If you are claiming to be independent and are under the age of 24, you must provide proof of financial independence. Independent students under the age of 24 must prove sufficient income in the previous year (check with the registrar's office on your campus for more information) and not be claimed by another person on their taxes (must show prior year taxes); have a dependent child and have received Florida state aid; show proof of marriage; be a veteran of the U.S. service (DD214) required; be classified as "independent" by the financial aid office at Miami Dade College; or declared ward of the state or project independence recipient by a Florida state agency.

Please note that, per current Florida law, stepparents are not eligible to claim Florida residency on behalf of a dependent student.

All students and/or parents (based on dependent or independent status) are required to submit the Florida residency affidavit and *at least two of the following documents with dates that evidence the 12-month qualifying period. At least one of the documents must be from the First Tier. As some evidence is more persuasive than others, more than two documents may be requested. No single piece of documentation will be considered conclusive. Additionally, there must be an absence of information that contradicts the applicant's claim of residency.*

First Tier (*at least one of the two documents submitted must be from this list*)

- Florida Driver's license (if known to be held in another state previously, must have relinquished) OR a State of Florida identification card (if evidence of no ties to another state)
- Florida voter registration card
- Florida vehicle registration
- Declaration of domicile in Florida (12 months from the date the document was sworn and subscribed as noted by the Clerk of Circuit Court)
- Proof of purchase of a permanent home in Florida that is occupied as a primary residence of the claimant (warranty deed)
- Transcripts from a Florida high school for multiple years (if Florida high school diploma or GED was earned within last 12 months)
- Proof of permanent full-time employment in Florida or 1040 income tax forms and/or W-2 forms (one or more jobs for at least 30 hours per week for a 12-month period), this may include paycheck stubs from work in Florida (from at least 1 year ago and current) and/or a letter of employment in Florida on official company letterhead (from at least 1 year ago)
- Benefit histories from Florida agencies or public assistance programs; this may include proof of state of Florida unemployment, state aid, or social security benefits, including foster care, road to independence, and ward of the state

Second Tier (*may be used in conjunction with one document from First Tier*)

- A Florida professional or occupational license
- Florida incorporation
- Proof of membership in Florida-based charitable or professional organizations
- Other documentation that supports the student's request for resident status

Examples of "other" documentation:

- Utility bills and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments
- Lease agreement and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments
- State or court documents evidencing legal ties to Florida

Unacceptable Documents (*may not be used*)

- Hunting/fishing licenses
- Library cards
- Shopping club/rental cards
- Birth Certificate
- Passport

NOTE: The above serves as a summary of Florida law and related policies/procedures applied by Miami Dade College in determining eligibility of residency-for-tuition-purposes. Further information is available at the Registrar's Office at the campus the student plans to attend. NOTE THAT NO SINGLE DOCUMENT SHALL BE CONCLUSIVE AND ALL DOCUMENTATION IS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION. THERE MUST ALSO BE A LACK OF EVIDENCE OF TIES TO ANOTHER STATE IN ORDER FOR FLORIDA RESIDENCY TO BE GRANTED.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE: LIVING IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA FOR 12 MONTHS OR MORE DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY CLASSIFY AND/OR RECLASSIFY STUDENT AND/OR PARENT AS A FLORIDA RESIDENT FOR TUITION PURPOSES.

ALL INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

