

RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION INFORMATION

In accordance with WAC Chapter 250-18

All questions regarding residency requirements should be referred only to the designated representative in the Registration and Records Office @ 360.867.6180, or residency@evergreen.edu. This information is also available at www.evergreen.edu/registration.

Washington State Residency rules require that in order to be considered eligible for in-state tuition rates, domicile must be established for at least one year in the state, (12 months). **Domicile is defined as “a person’s true, fixed, and permanent home, (the place where they intend to remain). “WAC 250-18-015”.**

A nonresident student enrolled for more than six credit hours is presumed to be in the state for primarily educational purpose, and cannot count the time enrolled toward the one year, (12 months), domicile period, unless the student can prove that he or she has established a domicile in the state for purposes other than educational. After a student has registered at any institution as a nonresident, such student’s classification shall remain unchanged in the absence of evidence of sufficient quantity and quality to satisfy the institution to the contrary.

If the student is financially dependent, his or her domicile is considered the same as that of the student’s parent(s) or guardian(s); if the student is financially independent, the student’s own domicile is used when considering residency status.

FINANCIALLY INDEPENDENT OF PARENTS:

1. A person must physically reside in the state of Washington primarily for purposes other than education for the 12 consecutive months prior to the first day of the quarter of application. To be considered financially independent, the student has not been and will not be claimed as a tax exemption and has not received and will not receive significant financial assistance in any form directly or indirectly from his or her parents, relatives, legal guardians, or others.

Note: Any student who lived at a parent’s home during his or her senior year of high school **may not** count that year for independent status.

1. **The following is a list of all documents you will be required to provide to establish independent status:**

- **To be considered financially independent**, you must demonstrate by evidence satisfactory to the institution that you have met, through your income, the expenses associated with college tuition and living for the current calendar year and the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made. **Personal loans, PLUS loans, gifts and cash earnings** shall not be counted as income in this calculation. **Financial aid grants, scholarships and loans authorized by the financial aid office** in the student’s name may be considered as personal income. **A trust or other account available to the student shall be considered evidence of financial dependence. If the account was created before the student entered high school, there shall be a rebuttable presumption of dependence.**
- **Copy of tax return** for the most recent tax year. Students under the age of 24 must also provide a copy of parent’s tax forms (first and signature page only).
- Copies of **rent receipts, lease agreements, letters from landlord, canceled rent checks or home purchase agreements**. You must show proof of having a residence and maintaining physical presence in Washington State for **twelve consecutive** months, prior to the first day of the quarter of application.
- **Permanent full-time or part-time employment** in Washington during the one year prior to the quarter of application.
- **Copy of Washington State driver’s license** if you had a license in another state, or if you drive. A license must be acquired upon moving to this state or at least one-year prior to the quarter of application. You may not wait until the expiration date of an out-of-state license. **If you don’t drive**, obtain a Washington State Identification card following the same guidelines mentioned above.
- Copy of **Washington State vehicle registration** if you own or drive a vehicle for the one-year prior to the quarter of application. **A copy of your title will not suffice.**
- **Copy of Washington State Voter’s Registration Card**, acquired twelve months prior to the date of application.
- **Proof of coverage for medical, life, automobile and/or property insurance** in student’s name. Insurance obtained under parent/guardian policies can be considered an indication of dependence.
- Proof of having established a **bank account in Washington State**, and any other documents you may have to show that you have established “ties” with Washington for the twelve months prior to the quarter of application, i.e. clubs, organizations etc.
- **If you are not a US citizen**, but hold permanent resident immigration status, temporary resident status, or Refugee status, attach a copy of both sides of your Resident Alien Card, **Form I-94**, Temporary Resident card or other verification of your status with Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). A person holding immigration status may apply for change in residence classification **one year after** applying for the qualifying visa.

FINANCIALLY DEPENDENT ON PARENTS:

1. For a student to apply for residency as a dependent, one or both of the student's parents or court-appointed legal guardian must have physically resided in the state of Washington for **the twelve consecutive months** prior to the quarter for which the student is applying for a change of status.
2. **The student must be identified as a dependent** on the most recent federal income tax return of the parents or court-appointed legal guardian.

Note: If parents are separated, student can be claimed as a dependent by **either parent**, as long as one parent has resided in Washington State for one year prior to the quarter of application and has established a domicile.

3. The parent or legal guardian submits the following documentation showing his or her ties with Washington for a minimum of one year:
 - A copy of parent's most recent federal tax return identifying the applicant as a dependent (top portion only listing dependents claimed).
 - A copy of parent's rent receipts, lease or home purchase agreement covering twelve consecutive months prior to the quarter of application.
 - A copy of parent's Washington State motor vehicle registration, and Washington driver's license.
 - A copy of parent's Washington State voter's registration card.
 - If parents or legal guardians are not US citizens but hold permanent or temporary resident status, or Refugee status, attach a copy of both sides of parent's Resident Alien Card, Form I-94, Temporary Resident Card, or other verification of their Status with Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

Any student seeking to make a change of residency classification must file an application including written evidence with the institution. Applicants filing after the priority processing dates should be prepared to pay nonresident tuition by the tuition deadline.

ALL QUESTIONS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE IN THE REGISTRATION AND RECORDS OFFICE @ 360.867.6180, or residency@evergreen.edu