

**PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE**  
**Classification as a Resident for Tuition Purposes**

***Read this important information – Your tuition assessment depends on it!***

This information summarizes Pensacola State College's procedure for verification of Florida residency for tuition purposes in compliance with the provisions of Florida Statute 1009.21 and State Board of Education Rule 6A.10.044.

The requirements are established at the state level. Pensacola State College will abide by the laws of the state and the regulations established by the Board of Education. Any questions about classification should be directed to the Registrar's Office at (850) 484-1600.

**RESIDENCE CLASSIFICATION FOR TUITION PURPOSES**

State Law and State Board Rule provide two distinct definitions: (1) Resident and (2) Resident for Tuition Purposes. To be eligible for Florida residency for tuition purposes, a student (or a dependent student's mother, father, or legal guardian\*) must be a United States citizen or a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) and have established and maintained legal Florida residence for at least 12 months prior to the first day of classes of the term for which Florida residency status is requested.

**PHYSICAL PRESENCE VERSUS FLORIDA RESIDENCE FOR TUITION PURPOSES**

Living or attending school in the State of Florida does not necessarily equate to establishing a legal residence for tuition purposes. In this regard, documentation must be provided to support a claim to residency over and above mere physical presence to attend school. See the DOCUMENTS LIST below.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

An independent student may qualify as a Florida resident for tuition purposes if he/she meets the following criteria:

- Student is a United States citizen or Legal Permanent Resident Alien
- Student is 24 years of age or older
- Student has TWO documents from the DOCUMENTS LIST (see below)
- Student has a permanent Florida address

A dependent student may qualify as a Florida resident for tuition purposes if he/she meets the following criteria:

- Student is eligible to be claimed by mother, father, or legal guardian\* as a dependent for IRS purposes
- Student and mother, father, or legal guardian\* are citizens or Permanent Resident Aliens of the United States
- Student is under 24 years of age
- Student's mother, father, or legal guardian\* is the person claiming residence and the person upon whom the applicant is basing residence
- Student's mother, father, or legal guardian\* has TWO documents from the DOCUMENTS LIST (see below)
- Student's mother, father, or legal guardian\* has a permanent Florida address

## DOCUMENTS LIST

To be in compliance with Florida Law and State Board of Education Rule, *two forms of documentation* are required and must be dated or issued at least 12 months prior to the first day of classes for the term in which residency is requested. The two forms of documentation must be presented prior to the last day of registration for the intended term of enrollment.

- Florida driver's license issued 12 months prior to the first day of the term (original issue)
- Florida vehicle registration(s) in effect for at least 12 months prior to the first day of the term
- Florida voter's registration issued 12 months prior to the first day of the term
- Florida State Identification Card issued 12 months prior to the first day of the term (only for individuals who do not or cannot drive) accompanied by notarized statement indicating that the student or the dependent student's mother, father, or legal guardian\* does not drive, does not hold a driver's license in any state, and does not own a vehicle.
- Letter of employment on company letterhead indicating (a) full-time non-temporary employment in Florida or (b) part-time permanent employment in Florida for at least 12 months prior to the first day of the term
- Proof of purchase of permanent home in Florida with documentation of the filing of Homestead Exemption
- Professional or Occupational license in Florida issued 12 months prior to enrollment

NOTE: Rent receipts, utility bills, telephone bills, leases, and tax returns may support physical presence in the state, but the establishment of legal ties to the state must be documented.

## EXCEPTIONS

Florida Statute provides for some exceptions; i.e., military, public school teachers and administrators, spouses of Florida residents meeting the above criteria, Florida Pre-Paid Beneficiaries, etc. The law also permits certain non-citizens to be considered eligible to establish residency. For additional information regarding these residency exceptions, please see the College Catalog or contact the Registrar's Office at (850) 484-1600.

## \*LEGAL GUARDIAN

A legal guardian is defined as a person who has received court-ordered appointment as the legal/permanent guardian of a minor. Temporary guardianship granted by the parent for care, custody, and control for a specified period of time will not satisfy the requirement of Florida Law or State Board Rule for classification as a resident for tuition purposes.

## STATUTE AND GUIDELINES

The Statute and the guidelines provided by the state may be found on [www.FACTS.org](http://www.FACTS.org). Click APPLYING FOR COLLEGE, then RESIDENCY GUIDELINES (under APPLY)