Residency & Who Qualifies

Residency Determination

No person may establish domicile in Colorado solely for tuition purposes. There are three components to residency determination; domicile and intent, and the 12 month rule. It is important to know that once you become a qualified petitioner you must then establish a minimum of 12 months of domicile and intent prior to the term you are petitioning for, making it possible to petition the following year.

Domicile

Domicile – a student’s true, fixed, and permanent home and place of habitation. A person can have only one domicile at any one time. Domicile is a person’s legal, primary residence for a minimum of 12 consecutive months.

- Domicile can only be established as an adult (22 or older), or once a person is married, or if a person is legally emancipated, or if a student under the age of 22 is considered homeless youth as identified by the state. Domicile begins immediately after such date of these conditions.

Intent

Intent – Upon arrival to the state, students should take all actions that would be expected of any permanent resident of Colorado. These actions include severing ties from your former state and establishing these connections in Colorado.
Qualified Petitioners

The institution must follow state rules and regulations. Therefore, residency petition requirements may be subject to change without notice. Petitions can be found by clicking the appropriate petitioner category below.

Parent Petitioner

To be eligible to petition for residency as a parent you must have:

- An undergraduate student under 22 years of age prior to the start of classes;
- The parent/legal guardian, must be living in Colorado for a minimum of 12 consecutive months prior to the start of classes;
- The parent/legal guardian, must show intent and legal ties to the state of Colorado for a minimum of 12 months prior to the start of classes.

DACA students whose parent/legal guardian meet the requirements to complete a parent petition will be required to provide their valid approved DACA status that was issued at least 12 months prior to the first day of classes.

If you believe you meet the requirements outlined above you can complete the PARENT PETITION.

Undergraduate students who do not qualify to submit a parent petition should read the requirements carefully before attempting to complete the student emancipation petition. Proving emancipation is rare for most undergraduate students.

Emancipated Petitioner

Proving emancipation is rare for most undergraduate students. It is important you review the information below before petitioning.
- Failure of parental support due to economic hardships of the parent does not qualify a student as being emancipated.
- Financial support or gifts of any kind (including PLUS loans), regardless of date, and regardless if it was from a parent, other relative, or even a friend does not qualify a student as being emancipated, pursuant to section 103(2)(i)(ll) of the Colorado tuition classification law.

To be eligible to petition for residency as an emancipated individual you must: