

Chapter 250-18 WAC

RESIDENCY STATUS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

WAC

250-18-010	Purpose and applicability.
250-18-015	Definitions.
250-18-020	Student classification.
250-18-025	Classification procedure.
250-18-030	Establishment of a domicile.
250-18-035	Evidence of financial dependence or independence.
250-18-045	Administration of residency status.
250-18-050	Appeals process.
250-18-055	Recovery of fees for improper classification of residency.
250-18-060	Exemptions from nonresident status.

DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

250-18-040	Evidence of financial dependency. [Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-040, filed 9/8/82.] Repealed by 03-13-056, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015.
------------	---

WAC 250-18-010 Purpose and applicability. This chapter is promulgated pursuant to RCW 28B.15.015 by the board to establish the necessary regulations for the administration of residency status in higher education. Institutions shall apply the provisions of the regulations specified in chapter 250-18 WAC for the uniform determination of a student's resident and nonresident status and for recovery of fees for improper classification of residency.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 93-20-004, § 250-18-010, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-010, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-015 Definitions. (1) The term "institution" shall mean a public university, college, or community college within the state of Washington.

(2) The term "domicile" shall denote a person's true, fixed, and permanent home and place of habitation for other than educational purposes. It is the place where he or she intends to remain, and to which he or she expects to return when he or she leaves without intending to establish a new domicile elsewhere.

(3) The term "reside" shall mean the maintenance and occupancy of a primary residence in the state of Washington.

(4) The term "financially independent" shall be determined according to WAC 250-18-035.

(5) The term "dependent" shall mean a person who is not financially independent.

(6) The term "resident" for tuition and fee purposes shall be determined according to WAC 250-18-020.

(7) The term "nonresident" for tuition and fee purposes shall be determined according to WAC 250-18-020.

(8) The term "recovery of fees" shall apply to the amounts due to the institution or the student as a result of improper classification.

(9) The term "civil service" shall mean Washington state or federal government nonmilitary employment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 03-13-056, § 250-18-015, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-015, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-020 Student classification. (1) For a student to be classified as a "resident" for tuition and fee purposes, he or she must prove by evidence of a sufficient quantity and quality to satisfy the institution that he or she:

(a)(i) Has established a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington primarily for purposes other than educational for the period of one year immediately prior to commencement of the first day of the semester or quarter for which he or she has registered at any institution; and

(ii) Is financially independent; or

(b) Is a dependent student, one or both of whose parents or legal guardians have maintained a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington for at least one year immediately prior to commencement of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at any institution provided that any student who has spent at least seventy-five percent of both his or her junior and senior years in high school in this state, whose parents or legal guardians have been domiciled in the state for a period of at least one year within the five-year period before the student graduates from high school, and who has enrolled in a public institution of higher education within six months of leaving high school, shall be considered a resident only for as long as the student remains continuously enrolled for three quarters or two semesters in any calendar year; or

(c) Is a person who has completed the full senior year of high school and obtained a high school diploma - both at a Washington public or private high school approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW (or who has received the equivalent of a diploma). The person must have lived in Washington at least three years immediately prior to receiving the diploma (or its equivalent), and lived continuously in Washington state after receiving the diploma (or its equivalent) until the time of admittance to an institution of higher education (defined as a public university, college, or community college within the state of Washington). In addition, the person must provide an affidavit to the institution indicating that the individual will file an application to become a permanent resident at the earliest opportunity the individual is eligible to do so. Furthermore, the individual must indicate a willingness to engage in other activities necessary to acquire citizenship, including, but not limited to, citizenship or civics review courses; or

(d) Is a student who is on active military duty stationed in the state, or who is a member of the Washington national guard; or

(e) Is the spouse or dependent of an active duty military person stationed in the state of Washington; or

(f) Is a student who resides in Washington and is the spouse or dependent of a member of the Washington national guard; or

(g) Is a student of an out-of-state institution of higher education who is attending a Washington state institution of higher education pursuant to a home tuition program agreement under RCW 28B.15.725; or

(h) Is a student domiciled for one year in one or a combination of the following states: Idaho, Montana, Oregon, or Washington, and is a member of a federally recognized tribe whose traditional and customary tribal boundaries included portions of the state of Washington, or whose tribe was granted reserved lands within the state of Washington. The official list of federally recognized Washington tribes maintained by the governor's office of Indian affairs shall be used to determine eligibility.

(i) Is a student who is a resident of Oregon residing in Columbia, Gilliam, Hood River, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington county. The student must meet the following conditions:

(i) Is eligible to pay resident tuition rates under Oregon laws and has been domiciled in one or more of the designated Oregon counties for at least ninety days immediately prior to enrollment at a community college located in the following Washington counties: Asotin, Benton, Clark, Columbia, Cowlitz, Franklin, Garfield, Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania, Wahkiakum, or Walla Walla; or

(ii) Is a student enrolled for eight credits or less at the Tri-Cities branch or Vancouver branch of Washington State University.

(2) A student shall be classified as a "nonresident" for tuition and fee purposes if he or she does not qualify as a resident student under the provisions of subsection (1) of this section. A nonresident student shall include a student if he or she:

(a) Will be financially dependent for the current year or was financially dependent for the calendar year prior to the year in which application is made and who does not have a parent or legally appointed guardian who has maintained a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington for one year immediately prior to the commencement of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at an institution;

(b) Attends an institution with financial assistance provided by another state or governmental unit or agency thereof wherein residency in that state is a continuing qualification for such financial assistance, such nonresidency continuing for one year after the completion of the quarter or semester for which financial assistance is provided. Such financial assistance relates to that which is provided by another state, governmental unit or agency thereof for direct or indirect educational purposes and does not include retirements, pensions, or other noneducational related income. A student loan guaranteed by another state or governmental unit or agency thereof on the basis of eligibility as a resident of that state is included within the term "financial assistance;"

(c) Is not a citizen of the United States of America, unless such person holds permanent or temporary resident immigration status, "refugee - parolee," or "conditional entrant" status or is not otherwise permanently residing in the United States under color of law and further meets and com-

plies with all applicable requirements of WAC 250-18-030 and 250-18-035.

(3) A person does not lose a domicile in the state of Washington by reason of residency in any state or country while a member of the civil or military service of this state or of the United States, nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of this state or of the United States or of the high seas if that person returns to the state of Washington within one year of discharge from said service with the intent to be domiciled in the state of Washington.

(4) Any resident dependent student who remains in this state when such student's parents or legal guardians, having theretofore been domiciled in this state for a period of one year immediately prior to commencement of the first day of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at any institution, move from this state, shall be entitled to continued classification as a resident student so long as such student is continuously enrolled during the academic year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 06-20-118, § 250-18-020, filed 10/4/06, effective 11/4/06; 03-20-053, § 250-18-020, filed 9/26/03, effective 10/27/03; 03-13-056, § 250-18-020, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015 and 28B.15.0131. 98-08-004, § 250-18-020, filed 3/18/98, effective 4/18/98. Statutory Authority: 28B.15.015. 93-20-004, § 250-18-020, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28B.15 RCW as amended by 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 87-21-079 (Order 5-87, Resolution No. 87-60), § 250-18-020, filed 10/21/87; 87-16-048 (Order 3-87, Resolution No. 87-58), § 250-18-020, filed 7/29/87. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 83-13-092 (Order 2-83, Resolution No. 83-65), § 250-18-020, filed 6/17/83; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-020, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-025 Classification procedure. (1) After a student has registered at any institution as a nonresident, such student's classification shall remain unchanged in the absence of evidence of a sufficient quantity and quality to satisfy the institution to the contrary. The provision of such evidence to the contrary may be initiated by the student or the institution.

(2) Application for a change in classification shall be accepted up to the thirtieth calendar day following the first day of the instruction of the quarter or semester for which application is made. Applications made after that date in any quarter or semester shall be considered to have been filed as of the first day of the subsequent quarter or semester.

(3) Any change in classification, either nonresident to resident, or the reverse, shall be based upon written evidence maintained in the files of the institution.

(4) Approval of an application for resident status shall be made only after satisfaction that the requirements of domicile and independency or dependency have been made in compliance with RCW 28B.15.012 and WAC 250-18-030 and 250-18-035. Reclassification from nonresident to resident status preliminarily approved sixty days or more prior to the satisfaction of a one-year durational domicile shall be supplemented with additional documented proof of domicile if deemed necessary by the institution prior to final approval.

(5) The burden of proof that a student, parent, or legally appointed guardian has established a domicile in the state of Washington primarily for purposes other than educational lies with the student.

(6) For any student classified as a resident or authorized to pay resident fees or exempted from the payment of the nonresident differential on a basis other than an established

domicile in the state of Washington, the fee paying status of such student shall be subject to determination each term on the basis of chapter 28B.15 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 03-13-056, § 250-18-025, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 83-13-092 (Order 2-83, Resolution No. 83-65), § 250-18-025, filed 6/17/83; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-025, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-030 Establishment of a domicile. The domicile of any person shall be determined according to the individual's overall situation and circumstances and is not determined on the basis of a single factor; nor is a predetermined number of factors required. Institutions shall require evidence of a Washington domicile that is of sufficient quantity and quality to negate the existence of a domicile in a state other than Washington.

A nonresident student who is enrolled for more than six hours per semester or quarter shall be presumed to be in the state of Washington for primarily educational purposes. Such period of enrollment shall not be counted toward the establishment of a bona fide domicile of one year in this state unless such student proves that he or she has, in fact, established a bona fide domicile in this state primarily for purposes other than educational.

To aid the institutions in determining whether a student, parent, legally appointed guardian, or the person having legal custody of a student has established a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington primarily for purposes other than educational, the following factors are to be considered for both the individual and his or her spouse. The weight assigned to any given factor should depend on the ease with which it might be established and the degree to which it demonstrates commitment to domicile as a matter of common sense and as part of the individual's overall circumstances.

(1) Location and duration of registration or payment of taxes or fees on any motor vehicle, mobile home, travel trailer, boat, or any other item or personal property owned or used by the person;

(2) State and duration of any driver's license for the previous one year;

(3) Location and duration of any continuous full-time employment of the previous one year;

(4) Address and other pertinent facts listed on a true and correct copy of federal and state income tax returns for the calendar year prior to the year in which application is made;

(5) Location and duration of any voter registration for the previous one year;

(6) Location and duration of primary residence, evidenced by title, lease agreement, or monthly rental receipts for the previous one year;

(7) Residence status in all secondary and postsecondary schools attended outside the state of Washington;

(8) Location and duration of any checking accounts, savings accounts, and/or safety deposit boxes for the previous one year;

(9) Address listed on selective service registration;

(10) Location of membership in professional, business, civic or other organizations;

(11) Receipt of benefits under a public assistance programs;

(12) State claimed as residence for obtaining eligibility to hold a public office or for judicial actions;

(13) State claimed as residence for obtaining state hunting or fishing licenses;

(14) State in which a custodial parent has a child attending public schools.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 03-13-056, § 250-18-030, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 83-13-092 (Order 2-83, Resolution No. 83-65), § 250-18-030, filed 6/17/83; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-030, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-035 Evidence of financial dependence or independence. A person is financially independent if he or she has not been and will not be claimed as an 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 for the current calendar year and for the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made.

(1) To consider a claim that a person is financially independent, the institution may require such documentation as deemed necessary, including but not limited to the following:

(a) That individual's sworn statement.

(b) A true and correct copy of the state and federal income tax return of the person for the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made.

Should a person not have filed a state or federal income tax return because of minimal or no taxable income, documented information concerning the receipt of such nontaxable income may be submitted.

(c) A true and correct copy of the person's W-2 forms filed for the previous calendar year.

(d) Other documented financial resources, which may include but are not limited to the sale of personal or real property, inheritance, trust funds, state or financial assistance, gifts, loans, or statement of earnings of the spouse of a married student.

(e) A true and correct copy of the first and signature page of the state and federal tax returns of the parents, legally appointed guardians, or person or persons having legal custody of the student for the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made.

The extent of the disclosure required concerning the parent's or legal guardian's state and federal tax returns shall be limited to the listing of dependents claimed and the signature of the taxpayer and shall not require disclosure of financial information contained in the returns.

(f) A student whose parents are both deceased or who has been made an official ward of the court may be required to provide documentation attesting to the fact of such circumstances.

(g) Evidence of coverage for medical, life, automobile, and property insurance.

(2) To aid institutions in determining the financial independence of a student whose parents, legally appointed guardian, or person having legal custody of the student do not provide the documentation because of total separation or other reasons from the student, documentation clearly stating the student's status and relationship with his or her parents or legal guardian from a responsible third person, e.g., family physician, lawyer, or social worker may be submitted.

(3) To be considered financially independent, a student must demonstrate by evidence satisfactory to the institution that he or she has met, through his or her 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 (parent loan for undergraduate students), 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.

(4) 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.

(5) Information submitted by the student to the institution on the financial aid form may be used to affirm the authenticity of information submitted on an application.

(6) In all cases, the burden of proof that a student is financially independent lies with the student.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 03-20-053, § 250-18-035, filed 9/26/03, effective 10/27/03; 03-13-056, § 250-18-035, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-035, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-045 Administration of residency status.

Administration of residency status shall be the responsibility of the institution's board of trustees or regents in compliance with RCW 28B.15.011 through 28B.15.014 and chapter 250-18 WAC.

Boards of trustees or regents shall designate an institutional official responsible for making decisions on resident and nonresident status of students, and for maintaining records and documentation in support of such decisions.

Institutions shall use a uniform statewide form consistent with the provisions of chapter 250-18 WAC for the determination of change in residence status.

[Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-045, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-050 Appeals process.

Any final institutional determination of classification shall be considered a ruling on a contested case and shall be subject to court review only under procedures prescribed by chapter 34.05 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 93-20-004, § 250-18-050, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-050, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-055 Recovery of fees for improper classification of residency.

To aid the institutions in the determination of accuracy of statements made by a student, institutions shall require that a student affirm the authenticity of all information and supporting documentation provided by his or her signature thereon.

If erroneous, untrue, or incorrect information submitted results in an improper classification of resident or nonresident status, or if a final determination is reversed through the appeals process, institutions shall recover from the student or refund to the student as the case may be an amount equal to the total difference in tuition and fees had the proper classification been made.

[Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-055, filed 9/8/82.]

WAC 250-18-060 Exemptions from nonresident status. In accordance with RCW 28B.15.014, certain nonresidents may be exempted from paying the nonresident tuition and fee differential. Exemption from the nonresident tuition and fee differential shall apply only during the term(s) such persons shall hold such appointments or be so employed. To be eligible for such an exemption, a nonresident student must provide documented evidence that he or she does reside in the state of Washington, and:

(1) Holds a graduate service appointment designated as such by an institution involving not less than twenty hours per week;

(2) Is employed for an academic department in support of the instructional or research programs involving not less than twenty hours per week;

(3) Is a faculty member, classified staff member, or administratively exempt employee who resides in the state of Washington and is holding not less than a half-time appointment, or the spouse or dependent child of such a person;

(4) Is an immigrant having refugee classification from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service or the spouse or dependent child of such refugee, if the refugee (a) is on parole status, or (b) has received an immigrant visa, or (c) has applied for United States citizenship; or

(5) Is a dependent of a member of the United States Congress representing the state of Washington.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 03-20-053, § 250-18-060, filed 9/26/03, effective 10/27/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015 and 28B.15.0131. 98-08-004, § 250-18-060, filed 3/18/98, effective 4/18/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 93-20-004, § 250-18-060, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28B.15 RCW as amended by 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 87-21-079 (Order 5-87, Resolution No. 87-60), § 250-18-060, filed 10/21/87; 87-16-048 (Order 3-87, Resolution No. 87-58), § 250-18-060, filed 7/29/87. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 85-20-035 (Order 5-85, Resolution No. 86-2), § 250-18-060, filed 9/24/85; 84-14-024 (Order 3-84, Resolution No. 84-75), § 250-18-060, filed 6/26/84; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-060, filed 9/8/82.]