OHIO RESIDENCY
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS RESIDENCY?
Residency is a student’s billing status. There are three tiers of billing that a Columbus State Community College student can fall under: International, Non-Resident, and Ohio Resident. Students who are classified as residents for tuition purposes receive the benefit of a state-supported education, funded primarily by the taxpayers of Ohio. The residency rules are, therefore, meant to exclude from resident classification those people who are in the state of Ohio primarily for the purpose of receiving the benefit of a state-supported education. The Ohio Department of Higher Education classifies a resident as:

"Resident" shall mean any person who maintains a twelve-month place or places of residence in Ohio, who is qualified as a resident to vote in Ohio and receive state public assistance, and who may be subjected to tax liability under section 5747.02 of the Ohio Revised Code, provided such person has not, within the time prescribed by this rule, declared himself or herself to be or allowed himself or herself to remain a resident of any other state or nation for any of these or other purposes.

I AM A “RESIDENT”. WHY CAN’T YOU JUST CHANGE MY STATUS?
The term "Ohio resident" may differ from other definitions of Ohio residency. Despite the length of time you attend Columbus State Community College or live in Ohio, you may not qualify for Ohio residency for tuition purposes.

WHY AM I BEING TOLD THAT I AM NOT A RESIDENT?
"Resident" shall mean any person who maintains a twelve-month place or places of residence in Ohio, who is qualified as a resident to vote in Ohio and receive state public assistance, and who may be subjected to tax liability under section 5747.02 of the Revised Code, provided such person has not, within the time prescribed by this rule, declared himself or herself to be or allowed himself or herself to remain a resident of any other state or nation for any of these or other purposes.

Students that indicate on their application for Admission to the college that they have lived in Ohio for less than twelve (12) consecutive months will be classified as Non-Resident of Ohio for tuition surcharge purposes.

WHY AM I CLASSIFIED AS A NON-RESIDENT/INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?
A student’s residency status is initially determined by the information they provide about themselves at the point of their application for admission.

HOW DO I CHANGE MY RESIDENCY STATUS?
You may pick up an application packet in person at Student Central, Upper Level, Madison Hall or online at: http://www.cscc.edu/services/recordsandregistration/residency.shtml
CAN I APPLY FOR A PRIOR TERM AND RECEIVE A REFUND IF I CAN SHOW I WAS A RESIDENT AT THAT TIME?
No. The state guidelines prohibit retroactive residency decisions. You must apply by the deadline for the term in question in order to be reviewed for residency for that term. Please be sure to review the deadlines.

CAN I APPLY TO CHANGE MY RESIDENCY STATUS PRIOR TO ENROLLING FOR THE SEMESTER?
No. In order to process your application, you will need to be accepted and be designated as Ready to Register status for the semester in which you are applying to change your residency status.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHING OHIO RESIDENCY FOR TUITION PURPOSES?
In general, a student must demonstrate that they meet all of the following criteria in one of the following sections (application and documentation required):

- A dependent student, at least one of whose parent or legal guardian has been a resident of the State of Ohio for all other legal purposes for twelve (12) consecutive months or more immediately preceding the enrollment of the student in an institution of higher education (see C1: Dependent on an Ohio Resident Checklist within the Ohio Residency Verification Application Packet).

- An independent person who has been a resident of Ohio for all other legal purposes for at least twelve (12) consecutive months immediately preceding his or her enrollment in an institution of higher education and who is not receiving, and has not directly or indirectly received in the preceding twelve (12) months, financial support from persons or entities who are not residents of Ohio for all other legal purposes (see C2: Independent Student Checklist within the Ohio Residency Verification Application Packet).

- A dependent child of a parent or the spouse of a person who, as of the first day of a term of enrollment, has accepted full-time, self-sustaining employment in Ohio and established domicile in the State of Ohio for reasons other than gaining the benefit of favorable tuition rates (see C3: Dependent of a Person Employed Full-Time in Ohio Checklist within the Ohio Residency Verification Packet).

- An independent person who is living and is gainfully employed on a full-time or part-time and self-sustaining basis in Ohio and who is pursuing a part-time program of instruction at an institution of higher education and has not resided in the state for twelve (12) months shall be considered a resident of Ohio for these purposes (see E1: Gainful Employment in Ohio Pursuing Part-Time Program Checklist within the Ohio Residency Verification Packet).

- A person who enters and currently remains on active duty status in the United States military service while a resident of Ohio for all other legal purposes and his other dependents shall be considered residents of Ohio for these purposes as long as Ohio remains the state of such person’s domicile (see For Military Students Only, E2: OH Residents on Active Duty in the Military Checklist within the Ohio Residency Verification Packet).
**OHIO RESIDENCY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

- A person on active duty status in the United States military service who is stationed and resides in Ohio and his or her dependents shall be considered residents of Ohio for these purposes (see For Military Students Only, E3: Active Duty Military Stationed in Ohio Checklist within the Ohio Residency Verification Packet).

- A person who is transferred by his employer beyond the territorial limits of the fifty states of the United States and the District of Columbia while a resident of Ohio for all other legal purposes and his or her dependents shall be considered residents of Ohio for these purposes as long as Ohio remains the state of such person's domicile and as long as such person has fulfilled his or her tax liability to the State of Ohio for at least the tax year preceding enrollment (see E4: Ohio Residents Transferred out of the US by Their Employer Checklist within the Ohio Residency Verification Packet).

**I AM CURRENTLY CONSIDERED A RESIDENT OF OHIO. HOW IS MY RESIDENCY AFFECTED IF I LEAVE OHIO?**
The Ohio Department of Higher Education Guidelines allow Ohio residents 12 months out of the state before they "lose" their residency. If you leave the state for more than 12 months, your residency will likely be questioned. For example, if you accept employment in another state, you would likely lose your residency after 12 months. It is important to consider future residency implications when planning a move or extended stay outside Ohio.

The State of Ohio's 2012-2013 budget establishes a new provision called "Forever Buckeye." This provision extends the in-state tuition rate to Ohio high school graduates having the current legal status to remain permanently in the United States, who had left Ohio but return to enroll in an Ohio public institution of higher education and who establish a primary residence in Ohio by the first day of classes of the requested term.

**CAN I QUALIFY FOR "IMMEDIATE RESIDENCY" THROUGH SOMEONE OTHER THAN MY PARENT OR SPOUSE?**
No. A student cannot qualify for "immediate residency" through other relatives, fiancée, in-laws etc. A student may only be reviewed for "immediate residency" through their dependency upon a parent or spouse who is living and working full-time in Ohio.

**I HAVE LIVED IN OHIO MY ENTIRE LIFE EXCEPT FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS. DO MY DEPENDENTS AND I STILL QUALIFY FOR THE TUITION SUBSIDY?**
The cumulative time a person has lived in Ohio is not relevant. If the person has been away from Ohio for more than the twelve months immediately preceding enrollment, he or she will not maintain his or her residency status for the tuition subsidy. However, a student may qualify if he or she graduated from an Ohio high school (see D1: Forever Buckeye Checklist).
DOES MARRYING AN OHIO RESIDENT AUTOMATICALLY MAKE ME A RESIDENT?
Marriage to a person living in Ohio does not automatically make you an Ohio resident for tuition purposes. The person you marry must qualify as a resident for all legal purposes. You may apply to update this information under the C1 Checklist or C3 Checklist, (see links above), if that individual has not yet lived in Ohio for the past twelve (12) consecutive months.

WILL I AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A RESIDENT FOR THE TUITION SUBSIDY ONCE I HAVE LIVED IN OHIO FOR A YEAR?
No. Residency is never automatic; a reclassification of residency must be requested by the student by the submission of an application and supporting documents. Per the qualifications set by the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) in the Ohio Administrative Code, Chapter 3333-1-10 and Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 3333.31, any student who has been classified as a non-resident must apply for reclassification as a resident.

If a student is given a conditional status (i.e. E1, C3), he or she must renew that status prior to the deadline for the future term of attendance.

IF I AM PAYING OHIO TAXES, DOES THIS AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFY ME FOR THE TUITION SUBSIDY?
Not necessarily. If you are trying to establish residency in Ohio, paying taxes in Ohio is an indicator of your intent to become an Ohio resident. However, you must meet all of the criteria evidencing residency to be eligible for residency for tuition purposes. (See the Residency Guidelines)

MY PARENTS ARE DIVORCED, BUT ONE OF THEM LIVES IN OHIO. WOULD I STILL QUALIFY FOR THE TUITION SUBSIDY?
As long as a dependent student has one parent who has been an Ohio resident for at least the twelve months immediately preceding enrollment, he or she will be considered a resident whether or not the student actually lived in Ohio.

IF MY PARENTS OR SPOUSE MOVE TO OHIO, WHEN AM I ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A RESIDENT?
You may be eligible for "instant residency", C-3, if you are dependent upon a parent who is working full-time and has established domicile in Ohio before the beginning of a semester. You may be eligible if you are a dependent spouse of a person who has begun working full-time and established domicile in Ohio for reasons other than gaining the benefit of a state-supported education, before your initial term of enrollment.
I AM CURRENTLY CONSIDERED A NON-RESIDENT AND MY PARENTS, WHO ARE NOT RESIDENTS OF OHIO, CLAIMED ME AS A TAX DEPENDENT ON THEIR FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN. AM I ELIGIBLE FOR OHIO RESIDENCY?
If you are a dependent of your parents, your residency is determined by their residency status. When a student is applying for residency as an independent student, he or she cannot be claimed as a tax dependent by anyone outside the state of Ohio.

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT THAT I OBTAIN AN OHIO DRIVER'S LICENSE AND OTHER OHIO STATE SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS?
The Ohio Department of Higher Education guidelines are meant to exclude from residency those who are only in Ohio for educational purposes. A student needs to change all of their state specific documents to Ohio, including but not limited to; driver’s license or state ID, voter registration (if applicable), and vehicle registration. Transferring these items of registration is a way to show that you intend to become an Ohio resident.

Renewing an out of state driver’s license or state ID during the twelve (12) month period that you are attempting to establish residency could jeopardize your ability to receive a reclassification.

IF I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FULL-TIME IN OHIO, AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE TUITION SUBSIDY?
If you have lived in Ohio for less than 12 consecutive months and are employed on a full-time or part-time and self-sustaining basis, you may be eligible under E1: Gainful Employment in Ohio Pursuing Part-time Program. The minimum requirement to be considered self-sustaining is $300 per week. If you have dependents, then the minimum requirement would increase accordingly. If you have lived in Ohio for at least 12 consecutive months and are financially independent please refer to C2: Independent Student.

IF I OWN PROPERTY OR A BUSINESS IN OHIO, BUT LIVE IN ANOTHER STATE, DOES THAT MAKE ME (OR MY DEPENDENTS) ELIGIBLE FOR THE TUITION SUBSIDY?
No. The state guidelines do not grant residency to individuals or their dependents solely on the basis that they own property or a business in Ohio.

IF I OWN OR HAVE THE USE OF A CAR, AM I FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UPKEEP, GAS, AND INSURANCE?
Yes. Students are responsible being financially capable of paying for the upkeep, gas, and insurance of a car they either own or have the use of during their residency review period.
OHIO RESIDENCY
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT TYPES OF INCOME SOURCES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR HELPING ME ESTABLISH IN-STATE RESIDENCY?

- Support from other individuals who are not also residents of Ohio for all legal purposes
- Undergraduate PLUS loan money (loans taken out by the student's parents)
- Personal loans (loans not from a financial institution)
- Loans with a co-borrower
- Savings accounts that are not in your name
- Savings that have not been in your account at least one year prior to the start of your review period
- Financial aid that required you to be a resident of another state in order to receive it
- Credit card debt

I AM CURRENTLY TRYING TO ESTABLISH RESIDENCY. HOW DOES LEAVING OHIO FOR THE SUMMER, OR ANY PERIOD OF TIME, FOR AN INTERNSHIP AFFECT MY RESIDENCY APPLICATION?

The expectation is that students who are in the process of establishing their residency are physically living in the state of Ohio for the twelve consecutive months prior to the term for which they are requesting reclassification. Leaving the state for the summer or for any length of time longer than a two week period seriously jeopardizes your claim to Ohio residency. Students are responsible for providing proof of the purpose and length of time away from the state.

CAN I USE SAVINGS, MUTUAL FUNDS, STOCKS, ETC. AS INCOME FOR ESTABLISHING RESIDENCY DURING MY TWELVE MONTH RESIDENCY REVIEW PERIOD?

Yes. Eligible funds are based on:

1. The funds were in the student's account twelve months prior to the start of the student's twelve-month review period.
2. The funds are solely in the student's name and in control of the funds exclusively.

Eligibility of the account(s) and final determination will be decided by the Residency Office if a name other than the student's is on the account.

To calculate the amount of your savings usage, the balance from your most recent bank statement will be subtracted from your bank statement at the start of your twelve-month review period. This is the amount that you can list for "savings/mutual funds/stock usage".

IF I AM EMPLOYED AND BEING PAID CASH (IE: TIP INCOME, BABYSITTING), IS THIS INCOME ELIGIBLE FOR RESIDENCY?

Employment income earned as cash is only eligible for residency if it is subject to Ohio taxation. It is the responsibility of the student to provide proof that the income has been subject to Ohio taxation, otherwise it is ineligible income. Large deposit(s) of cash on your bank statements could potentially jeopardize your claim to Ohio residency, so you will want to have a record of cash payments related to employment. Notarized letters from employers are acceptable.
I AM IN THE MILITARY. HOW DOES THAT AFFECT MY (OR MY CHILDREN OR SPOUSE'S) RESIDENCY?
For individuals who are on full-time, active duty status with the military, or in the Ohio National Guard, the state has three exceptions in the residency guidelines:

- If you are an Ohio resident on full-time, active duty status with the military, you and your dependents are considered residents as long as Ohio has remained your state of domicile and you have fulfilled your tax obligation to the state while on active duty.

- If you are not an Ohio resident but are stationed in Ohio on a full-time, active duty status, you and your dependents will be considered residents for tuition purposes for as long as you are stationed in Ohio.

- If you are a person who is a member of the Ohio National Guard and who is domiciled in Ohio, you and your dependents will be considered residents for tuition purposes.

ARE NON-UNITED STATES CITIZENS ELIGIBLE FOR RESIDENCY FOR TUITION PURPOSES?
If a person is financially independent, they must be a United States citizen, Permanent Resident Alien, Political Asylee, Political Refugee, or hold an A, E, G, H, I, L, O, P, R, TC, TD or TN visa to be eligible for review as an in-state resident for tuition purposes.

If a student is financially dependent upon a spouse or parent, the person they are dependent upon must also must be a United States citizen, Permanent Resident Alien, Political Asylee or Political Refugee, or hold an A, E, G, H, I, L, O, P, R, TC, TD or TN visa in order for the student to qualify to be reviewed for in-state residency.

Students whose immigration status is pending are eligible to establish Ohio residency only if their most recent immigration status was eligible to establish Ohio residency. Financially dependent is defined as having been claimed for tax purposes since birth.

Please go to the following link for more information:
http://www.csc.edu/_resources/media/services/pdf/Immigration_Status_Eligible_and_Non-Eligible_Visa_Types.pdf

HOW DO I KNOW IF I HOLD AN ELIGIBLE VISA STATUS?
You should review the Immigration Status: Eligible and Non-Eligible Visa Types chart. Students with a DACA status should contact International Enrollment Services istudent@csc.edu.

For additional questions not listed, please email residency@csc.edu or leave a message on the residency information voicemail line at 614-287-5533 and an Ohio Residency Officer will respond to your inquiry within 24 business hours.