

# DETERMINATION OF STUDENT CLASSIFICATION FOR IN-STATE TUITION PURPOSES

---

Tuition is determined by the number of credit hours a student is taking, the student's residency classification, course of study and classification level. For in-state tuition benefits, the student must comply with the Code of Virginia (<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title23.1/chapter5/>) regulations relative to in-state tuition and reduced rate tuition eligibility.

All applicants to VCU who wish to be considered for in-state tuition rates as Virginia residents must submit the Application for Virginia In-state Tuition Rates. This application is a part of the admissions packet and the nondegree-seeking student enrollment package. The residency determination of the applicant is conveyed at the time of admission as a degree-seeking student or nondegree-seeking student.

New and continuing students initially classified as non-Virginians for tuition purposes may request a review of the initial residency determination by completing an Application for Change of Domicile available from the Office of Records and Registration (online). The student must present clear and convincing evidence that they are not residing in the state primarily to attend school. The application deadline is the end of the add/drop period of the semester, and it is the responsibility of the student to establish or to file an appeal to change their residency classification prior to the start of classes for the semester under consideration. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, applications received after the deadline must be considered for the next semester. Submit completed applications with documentation to the university residency appeals officer. Processing may require four to six weeks; therefore it is strongly recommended that applications be submitted earlier than the stated deadline.

The university's service to students is limited to assuring that they understand the procedures for appealing and that they have access to information about the relevant sections of the Code of Virginia. The university provides information about the steps of the process and access to the applicable sections of the statute and the associated guidelines. The university provides qualified staff to review the appeals and make decisions based on the information students provide. The university representative cannot provide advisement to students as to how to present their case for review; neither can they become the student's advocate since these university representatives must make the decision.

Students approved for a change to in-state status for tuition purposes are notified by mail with copies of their approval letters sent to the Office of Financial Aid and the Office of Student Accounting. Students denied this status are also notified by mail. The denial letter informs the student of procedures for appeal of this decision, to include filing an appeal with the university residency appeals committee. Students who submit fraudulent applications, falsify documentation or conceal information will be subject to reclassification, payment of all nonresident fees owed and university discipline.

Please note that a student with in-state status for tuition purposes who exceeds 125 percent of the credit hours needed to complete his program will be assessed a tuition surcharge.