

FLORIDA RESIDENCY

◆ A Florida "resident for tuition purposes" is a person who has, or a dependant person whose parent or legal guardian has, established and maintained legal residency in Florida for at least twelve months. Residence in Florida must be as a bonafide domicile rather than for the purpose of maintaining a residence incident to enrollment at an institution of higher education. To qualify as a Florida resident for tuition purposes, you must be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident alien, or legal alien granted indefinite stay by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Other persons not meeting the twelve-month legal residence requirement may be classified as Florida residents for tuition purposes only if they fall within one of the limited special categories authorized by the Florida Legislature and Board of Regents. All other persons are ineligible for classification as a Florida "resident for tuition purposes". Living in or attending school in Florida will not, in itself, establish legal residence. Students who depend on out-of-state parents for support are presumed to be legal residents of the same state as their parents.

◆ Pick up the form "REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN RESIDENCY STATUS" from the Registrar's Office, Room S222 Criser Hall, to review the information and items that will be requested when you file for residency after being in the state 11.5 to 12 months.

◆ Applicants are required to demonstrate legal ties to the State of Florida for the preceding 12 months prior to the start of classes and to relinquish those legal ties from other states that cannot be held concurrently. Generally, these primary documents include a Florida driver's license, car registration, voter's registration and county declaration of domicile. Additional supporting documents may include verification of employment, rental lease, and bank accounts. However, supporting documents cannot replace the primary documents if they are not dated at least 12 months prior.

◆ File a "DECLARATION OF DOMICILE IN FLORIDA", costing \$11.00 downtown at the Alachua County Administrative Building, Official Records Office, Room 101 (corner of University Avenue and Main Street). This should be done right away and the receipt kept to attach to the request for change form when submitted to Criser Hall.

◆ The applicant should read carefully the Request for Change of Residency Status and follow all instructions before submitting it for review. Students may consult extensive sections in the University of Florida graduate catalogs, which may further clarify the requirements of the law.

◆ Determining the proper classification of residency for tuition purposes is a lengthy process. Applicants will be notified in writing of the decision. Students are reminded that they are responsible for paying the appropriate fees, based upon the current residency classification, by the published fee payment deadline. If the application for Florida residency for tuition purposes is approved, the student will be issued a refund for the difference.