

POLICY STATEMENT FOR RECLASSIFICATION TO FLORIDA RESIDENT FOR TUITION PURPOSES

According to the recent changes in Florida Statute 1009.21 section 6A, an individual who is initially classified as a non-Florida resident for tuition purposes may become eligible for reclassification to a Florida resident for tuition purposes only if that individual, or his or her parents (if that student is dependent) present “clear and convincing” evidence that supports permanent residency in Florida. This is accomplished by presenting documentation of establishment of a bona fide domicile in Florida for at least 12 consecutive months. The burden of proof is on the student and/ or the claimant to show both of the following:

1. Proof of residency in Florida for the requisite 12 month period; **and**
2. That residency in the state of Florida is not merely temporary or incidental to enrolling in a college or a university located in Florida.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

To satisfy item 1 above, the student, or his or her parent (claimant) if that student is dependent, should provide photocopies of **at least two** of the following documents dated for at least 12 consecutive months.

- a. Florida voter's registration card.
- b. Florida driver's license.
- c. State of Florida identification card.
- d. Florida vehicle registration.
- e. Proof of a permanent home in Florida which is occupied as a primary residence by the individual or by the individual's parents (if the individual is a dependent child).
- f. Proof of a homestead exemption in Florida.
- g. Transcripts from a Florida high school for multiple years if the Florida high school diploma or GED was earned within the last 12 months.
- h. Proof of permanent full-time employment in Florida for at least 30 hours per week for a 12-month period.

If the claimant cannot provide two of the documents from above, consideration may be given on a case by case basis for utilizing other documents that provide “clear and convincing” evidence that proves Florida residency for tuition purposes. However in all cases the claimant must have at least one document from the above list.

To satisfy item 2 above the claimant should provide at least one of the following documents. (Additional evidence or documents may be required by the College for meeting this requirement of reclassification)

- a. A declaration of domicile in Florida.
- b. A Florida professional or occupational license.
- c. Florida incorporation.
- d. A document evidencing family ties in Florida.
- e. Proof of membership in a Florida-based charitable or professional organization.
- f. Any other documentation that supports the student's request for resident status, including, but not limited to, utility bills and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; a lease agreement and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; or an official state, federal, or court document evidencing legal ties to Florida.

UNACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS (may not be used)

- a. Hunting/ fishing license
- b. Library Cards
- c. Shopping club/ rental cards
- d. Birth Certificates
- e. Passport

Students interested in pursuing Residency Reclassification or appealing an initial Residency Classification decision may do so by contacting the Office of the Dean Student Services at any HCC campus.