HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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. Such reclassification may happen only if that individual or his or her parents (claimant) if that individual is dependent, present “clear and convincing” evidence that supports permanent residency in Florida.

Students must present documentation indicating establishment of a bona fide domicile in this state for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the first day of classes in the regular term for which in state residency for tuition purposes is sought.

The burden of proof is on the student and/or the claimant to show both of the following:

1. Proof of residency in the state of Florida for the requisite 12 month period;
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 the requirements listed above, the student, or his or her parent (claimant) if that student is dependent, should provide photocopies of at least three documents with a minimum of one from tier 1 list.

TIER 1

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 (claimant) 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.

HCC is also recommending that the additional two documents can come from the tier 2 list. However, consideration may be given on a case by case basis by utilizing 2 other supporting documents that provide “clear and convincing” evidence that proves Florida residency for tuition purposes. Additional evidence or documents may be required by the college for meeting this requirement of reclassification.

A student’s enrollment in HCC, either full or part time, during the 12 month qualifying period, will not necessarily disqualify him or her from eligibility for reclassification, as long as the documentation meets the standard for “clear and convincing” evidence.

Tier 2

a. Declaration of domicile in Florida.

b. Florida professional or occupational license.

c. Florida incorporation.

d. Documentation 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

*All residency appeals for reclassification will need to be submitted to the Dean of Student Services on your respective campus. Students should include a written request for reclassification along with the supporting documentation mentioned above.*