

Residency Status Policy FAQs

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE RESIDENCY POLICY AND INFORMATION

While residency status can be a confusing subject to navigate, we have included some FAQs about in-state tuition status to help answer residency status questions:

Q: Does the payment of income or property taxes to the state of Michigan affect a student's eligibility for in-state status?

A: No. A person must be domiciled in the state of Michigan to be eligible to be classified as in-state for tuition purposes. For University purposes, "domicile" is defined as the individual's true, fixed, and permanent home.

Q: After completing my first year at CMU will I qualify for in-state status?

A: No. To qualify for in-state status, students must prove that they are living in the state of Michigan for non-educational purposes. If an individual's activities or circumstances are considered unknown or temporary, such as (but not limited to) educational pursuit, that individual is not considered domiciled in the state of Michigan and thus, will be classified as out-of-state for tuition purposes.

Q: How long do I need to live in Michigan to be eligible for in-state status?

A: A non-dependent student needs to physically live in Michigan for 18 consecutive months without enrolling in any academic courses at any two-year or four-year degree granting institutions to become eligible for in-state status. During the same period of time, the student cannot be claimed as a dependent for federal tax purposes. Dependent students (26 years of age or younger) need to see the regulations for dependent students.

Q: Is it possible to be a legal resident of the state of Michigan and not be eligible for the in-state fee classification?

A: Yes. The state of Michigan decides the requirements for becoming a legal resident of the state. However, the Central Michigan University College of Medicine determines when a person becomes eligible for the in-state classification at the College of Medicine.

Q: Does an out-of-state student become automatically eligible for in-state status by marrying a Michigan resident?

A: No. Although marriage to a resident of Michigan is considered in the determination of in-state status, the existence of this factor alone does not qualify a student for in-state status.

Q: My company has transferred me to Michigan. Will my dependents qualify for in-state status?

A: In the case of a dependent student, if one parent is domiciled in Michigan, as shown by the parent's permanent employment, establishment of a household, and severance of out-of-state ties, the student will be classified as in-state.

Q: If one of my parents lives in Michigan, will I qualify for in-state status?

A: The domicile of a dependent student is presumed to be the same as his/her parent. If one parent is domiciled in Michigan, as shown by the parent's permanent employment and establishment of a household, the student will be classified as in-state.

Q: My family has just moved to Michigan. Will I qualify for in-state status?

A: In the case of a dependent student, if one parent is domiciled in Michigan, as shown by the parent's permanent employment, establishment of a household, and severance of out-of-state ties, the student will be classified as in-state.

Q: If my parents move out of Michigan, will I lose my in-state status?

A: No. If a parent of a dependent student moves out of Michigan during the time the student is enrolled at the University, the student's in-state classification will be kept as long as the student stays continuously enrolled (Fall and Spring semesters) in the University.

Q: I graduated from a Michigan high school. My parents still live in Michigan, but I attended a non-Michigan college or university. Do I qualify for in-state status?

A: Yes. The in-state status of a prospective student domiciled in Michigan will not be affected by the student's full-time attendance, at a non-Michigan college or university, prior to enrolling at Central Michigan University.

Q: If I move to Michigan and live with a family member, will I qualify for in-state status?

A: No. A student who is 26 years of age or younger is presumed to be dependent on his/her parents.

Q: Do military service members and their dependents qualify for in-state status?

A: Yes. If the student, the spouse of a student, or a parent of a dependent student:

- is serving on active duty in the United States Uniformed Services
- is serving in the guard or reserves in one of the reserve components; or
- has received an honorable discharge from one of those Services or reserve components.

Q: How do students request reclassification to in-state status?

A: A student who believes he/she should be classified as in-state under the regulations, is required to complete a [Change in Resident Status Application](#). Applications and other documents should be sent to the Director of Admissions, CMU College of Medicine, 600 E.

Preston, 017 Foust Hall, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859, at least one month in advance of the semester in which reclassification is sought.

Q: Is there an "effective date" that applies to a person's eligibility for in-state status?

A: Yes. Circumstances that exist on the first day of classes of each individual semester determine a student's eligibility for in-state status for that semester.

Q: If a student is reclassified to in-state status, is it possible to get a refund of the out-of-state tuition paid?

A: No refunds for semesters completed prior to the request for reclassification will be made.

Q: Can a student appeal the decision from the Review Committee?

A: Yes. Any student desiring to challenge the decision of the Review Committee has the right to appeal the decision. The appeal will be reviewed by the Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Applications should be sent to the Director of Admissions, CMU College of Medicine, 600 E. Preston, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Q: Who is, by default, considered a non-resident?

A: If:

- you live outside the State of Michigan for any purpose, including, but not limited to, education, volunteer activities, travel, or employment.
- you attended or graduated from a college outside the State of Michigan.
- you lived or worked outside the State of Michigan at any time within the last three years.
- you are not a U.S. citizen.
- your spouse, partner, or parent is in Michigan as a nonresident student, medical resident, fellow or for military assignment or other temporary employment.
- you are 24 years of age or younger and your parent(s) lives outside the State of Michigan.
- you are 24 years of age or younger and have attended or graduated from a high school outside the State of Michigan.
- you attended or graduated from an out-of-state high school and have been involved in educational pursuits for the majority of time since high school graduation.
- you attended Central Michigan University as a nonresident.

Other circumstances also may require you to file an Application for Resident Classification.

Q: What circumstances might show permanent Michigan residency?

A: The following circumstances and activities, though not conclusive or exhaustive, may lend support to a claim that Michigan is your permanent legal residence:

- Both of your parents or parents-in-law (or in the case of divorce, one parent or parent-in-law) are permanent legal residents of Michigan as demonstrated by permanent employment in the State of Michigan (“State” or “Michigan”), establishment of a primary household in Michigan, and severance of out-of-state ties. You must also show that you have severed all out-of-state ties that suggest another state/country is your legal residence.
- You are employed in Michigan in a full-time, permanent position, your employment is the primary purpose for your or your family’s presence in the State, and you have severed any out-of-state ties that suggest another state/country is your legal residence.
- Your spouse or partner is employed in Michigan in a full-time, permanent position, your spouse or partner’s employment is the primary purpose for your family’s presence in the State, and you have severed all out-of-state ties that suggest another state/country is your legal residence.

Q: What circumstances may not show permanent Michigan residency?

A: The circumstances and activities listed below are most often temporary or indeterminate and do not show permanent residence in Michigan. Individuals whose claim to Michigan residence is based solely on one or more of the following will not be found to be Michigan residents for tuition purposes:

- You are enrolled in a college or university in Michigan.
- Your employment in Michigan is temporary or short-term or of the type usually considered an internship, student employment, or apprenticeship.
- Your spouse or partner’s employment in Michigan is temporary or of the type usually considered an internship, student employment, or apprenticeship.
- Your spouse or partner’s employment in Michigan is permanent but you are in the State for temporary reasons.
- Your employment position in Michigan is normally held by a student.
- You have paid Michigan income tax or filed Michigan resident income tax returns.
- Your relatives (other than parents) live in Michigan.
- You own property or pay Michigan property taxes.
- You have a Michigan driver’s license or voter registration.
- You have a Permanent Resident alien Visa.
- You had continuous physical presence in Michigan for one year or more.
- You sign a statement of intent to be domiciled in Michigan.

Q: How does dependency affect residency status?

A: You are presumed to be dependent on your parents if you are 24 years of age or younger and (1) have been primarily involved in educational pursuits, or (2) have not been financially self-supporting through employment.

- If you are a dependent student, and both your parents are legal residents of another state, you are presumed to be a nonresident.
- If you are a dependent, your parents or parents-in-law are divorced, and at least one parent or parent-in-law is a permanent legal resident of the State (as defined in these Guidelines), you are presumed to be a resident if you can demonstrate that (a) Michigan is your permanent legal residence and (b) you have severed all out-of-state residency ties.
- If you are a permanent legal resident of this State as defined by these Guidelines, you are presumed to keep resident status eligibility even if your parents leave the State during the years in which you are attending a higher education institution.

Q: How does absence from Michigan impact residency status?

A: You may be able to keep your eligibility for resident classification under the conditions listed below if you are a permanent legal resident of Michigan under these Guidelines and leave the State for certain types of activities. However, if you have been absent from the State, you must file an Application for Resident Classification by the proper filing deadline to request resident classification and prove your eligibility.

- **Absence for Active-Duty Military Service (U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, Officers in the Public Health Service), Non-Administrative Missionary Work, Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, or Similar Philanthropic Work.**
If you are a permanent legal resident of Michigan as defined by these Guidelines when you enter active military duty, missionary work, Peace Corps, or similar service, you are presumed to retain your eligibility for resident classification if you (1) are on continuous active duty or in continuous service and (2) continuously claim Michigan as your state of legal residence for income tax purposes. If you are a dependent child of such an individual, you are presumed to be eligible for resident classification if both of the following are true: (1) you are coming to the College and have been continuously enrolled in a higher education institution since graduating from high school; and (2) you have not claimed residency for tuition purposes elsewhere.
- **Absence Because of Temporary Foreign Assignment**
If you are a dependent student and you and your parents are permanent legal residents of Michigan immediately preceding an absence for a temporary foreign assignment with a parent's Michigan employer, you may retain your eligibility for resident classification if both of the following are true: (1) your family members hold

temporary visas in the foreign country, and (2) you return directly to Michigan and remain in the State for educational purposes after leaving the foreign country.

- **Temporary Absence of Less Than One Year**

If you are independently a permanent legal resident of Michigan immediately preceding a temporary absence of less than one year, you are presumed to retain eligibility for resident classification provided that, immediately upon your return to Michigan, you sever any out-of-state ties that suggest another state/country is your legal residence.

Q: What Documents Must You Submit with Your Application for Resident Classification?

A: Along with your completed Application for Resident Classification form, you must provide additional documents.

- All applicants must send the following documents with an Application for Resident Classification, if available:
 - copies of your driver's license and the license(s) of the person or persons upon whom you are basing your claim on resident eligibility.
 - copies of the front and signature pages of the most recent year's federal and state income tax returns and W2 forms for you and the person or persons upon whom you are basing your claim to resident eligibility; and
 - any other documentation that supports your claim to resident eligibility.
- **Dependents.** If you are claimed as a dependent on federal or state income tax returns, or are presumed to be a dependent under these Guidelines, you must also send the following documents, if available:
 - copies of the front and signature pages of your parents' most recent year's federal and state income tax returns, along with accompanying W2s (and Schedule C and E if self-employed) along with your parents' most recent paystubs showing Michigan income taxes being withheld.

Q: Will You Be Required to Submit Additional Documentation?

A: In addition to the documentation needed above, the Residency Classification Committee may request other documentation after the first review of your application.

Q: What Happens to Materials Submitted with An Application For Resident Classification?

A: Applications and documentation will be kept by the College in accordance with its policies. All information will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by law.

Q: What Information Does the Residency Classification Committee Consider?

A: In making residency determinations, the College considers all the information provided with your Application for Resident Classification and any other available information it finds to be relevant.