

# Instructions: Independent Student Petition



Use this guide to understand requirements and submit your petition for Arizona residency status.

## QUICK START

1. **Submit petition online:** <https://go.oasis.asu.edu/residencypetition/>
2. **Upload supporting documents before document deadline**
3. **Pay \$50 non-refundable fee**

 **Check deadlines:** <https://registrar.asu.edu/residency-deadlines>

## Requirements:

Requirement	What You Must Provide
<b>1. Physical Presence</b>	Objective evidence of continuous physical presence Arizona for the 12 month period prior to the residency petition deadline.  <i><b>Note:</b> Absences over 30 days total may require explanation or additional documentation.</i>
<b>2. Arizona Domicile</b>	Objective evidence that Arizona is your permanent home and you have possessed the legal and customary indicators of domicile for 12 months: AZ driver's license, vehicle registration, voter registration, employment, etc.  <i><b>Note:</b> Delaying these actions or maintaining ties to your former state are considered a lack of intent to establish domicile in Arizona.</i>
<b>3. Financial Independence</b>	Objective evidence that you are capable of paying all your own living expenses and tuition without support from others (except your spouse, if applicable).  <i><b>Note:</b> Parent PLUS Loans belong to the parent borrower, who is legally responsible for repayment. Parent PLUS loans are not transferable to the student and indicate a lack of financial independence.</i>
<b>Student Presumption</b> - You must also overcome the presumption that your presence in Arizona is primarily for education, not to establish residency. <a href="#">See ABOR 4-203-G.</a>	
<b>Citizenship/Visa Eligibility</b> - Non-U.S. citizens with visa types requiring a foreign domicile cannot qualify for in-state tuition. See <a href="https://registrar.asu.edu/forms/visa-types-and-residency-eligibility">https://registrar.asu.edu/forms/visa-types-and-residency-eligibility</a>	

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## Documentation:

After submitting your petition, you'll receive a customized document checklist. Commonly requested items include:

### Financial

- 12 months of complete bank statements
- Tax returns (federal and state) for you, spouse, and/or parents
- W2 or 1099 forms
- Employment history with dates, locations, and earnings

### Domicile

- Arizona driver's license or state ID
- Arizona vehicle registration
- Arizona voter registration and voting history
- Lease agreement or property ownership documents

### Citizenship/Identity

- Birth certificate or passport
- Permanent Resident Card or I-485 approval (if applicable)
- Visa documentation (if applicable)

The burden of proof always belongs to the student and you will also have an opportunity to upload any other documentation you think is relevant. The residency office may also request additional documentation, if necessary.

## How We Evaluate Your Petition

- **Physical Presence:** We review bank statements, employment records and anything that might place you in Arizona.
- **Arizona Domicile:** We look for indicators of “intent” to be a resident of Arizona and that you have had these for 12 months (e.g., Arizona driver’s license).
- **Financial Independence:** We review pay stubs, W2s, tax returns and financial aid to confirm that you are self-supporting for 12 months.
- **Student Presumption:** We presume your presence in Arizona is primarily to be a student until rebutted by objective evidence.
- **Weight & authenticity:** We judge the truthfulness and weight of all evidence presented and will seek authentication, if necessary.
- **Statements of intent:** We consider all statements of intent in light of the financial benefit you'll receive from in-state tuition.
- **Residency for Tuition Purposes:** This has a distinct meaning and may differ from other definitions of residency.

## Important Reminders

- **Missing documentation** will lead to denial or delay. If you can't provide something, please submit a note explaining why.
- **Upload documents** to your petition online — we cannot accept email or in-person submissions.
- **Check your ASU email** — we may request additional documents or have follow-up questions. Please respond promptly.
- **We review everything** — we will review your admission application, financial aid, and all communications with the university.
- **Do your own research** — please don't assume anything. Ask questions if unclear.
- **Be honest** — making false or misleading statements about domicile or tuition status may result in dismissal from ASU and responsibility for unpaid tuition.

## Resources

### ABOR Definitions

- **Domicile:** means an individual's true, fixed and permanent home and place of habitation. It is the place where the individual lives, intends to remain, and to which the individual intends to return when leaving without intending to establish a new domicile elsewhere.
- **Objective Evidence:** means documentation or information other than an individual's own statement(s) of intent.
- **Financial Independence:** means the individual is capable of paying for the individual's living expenses (i.e., housing, utilities, transportation, insurance, groceries/food) and university tuition with funds earned by the individual or with funds that are the sole property of the individual, without receiving significant financial support from someone other than a spouse.

### Arizona State Law

- Arizona requires that you obtain an Arizona vehicle registration and driver license, immediately if you are registered to vote in Arizona, you pay school tuition fees at the same rate as an Arizona resident or you place children in school without paying the tuition rate of a nonresident. Delaying (or not obtaining) these indicators are considered a lack of intent to establish domicile in Arizona.
- Arizona residents are subject to income tax on all income, regardless of where it is earned. The tax is based on federal adjusted gross income with specific modifications, requiring residents to report all income, including earnings from other states.

### ASU Web Sites

- **Residency Navigator:** <https://registrar.asu.edu/residency>
- **Contact Residency Office:** <https://registrar.asu.edu/residency-classification-contact-us>
- **Document Upload Guidelines:** <https://registrar.asu.edu/residency-petition-documentation>
- **ABOR Policies:** <https://www.azregents.edu/about/policy-manual>