

Lawful Presence & Proof of Georgia Residency

Lawful Presence

[TCSG Procedure 6.2.2p](#): “Each college shall be responsible for the verification of the lawful presence in the United States of every successfully admitted student applying for Georgia resident tuition status as required by state and federal immigration laws.”

How can a student verify lawful presence?

- Students who file a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and are eligible for federal student aid will have their lawful presence verified as part of the FAFSA process.
- A clear copy of an original or certified U.S. Birth Certificate showing the student was born in the U.S. or a U.S. territory, A U.S. Certificate of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (DS-1350) or a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (FS-240). The copy must very clearly show the raised or written seal to be acceptable.
- A U.S. Certificate of Naturalization (USCIS form N-550 or N-570).
- A U.S. Certificate of Citizenship (USCIS form N-560 or N-561).
- A current U.S. Passport.
- Unexpired Georgia and select out of state Driver’s license and state ID cards can be accepted under certain conditions. **It must be a Real ID and not contain any of the verbiage in the chart below.** If the copy received has the top portion of the card cut off the document will not satisfy lawful presence.
- A current military ID (service member only, not dependent). Documented using the Confirmation of Review of Military ID Worksheet - A photocopy is not acceptable.
- A current, valid Permanent Resident Card (USCIS form I-151 or I-551). We require both the front & back sides of your Permanent Resident Card to be submitted. It must not expire before the first day of class of the term the student will start classes.

State DL/ID Requirements for Acceptance

Alabama Must NOT be marked “FN”

Alaska Must NOT be marked “Limited Term”

California Must NOT be marked “Limited Term.” Instruction Permits, Commercial Learner’s Permits, and temporary licenses cannot be accepted.

Delaware Must NOT be marked “Limited Term” or “Temporary”

Florida Must NOT be marked “Temporary”

Georgia Must NOT be marked “Limited Term”

Idaho Must NOT be marked “Limited Term”

Iowa Must NOT be marked “Limited Term”

Kentucky Must NOT be marked “Not for REAL ID purposes”

Louisiana Must NOT be marked “Limited Term”

Maryland Must NOT indicate “T” restriction

Proof of GA Residency

A student must be a resident of the state of Georgia for 12 months before initial enrollment at the college to qualify as an “in-state resident” for admission and tuition purposes. Students must be able to provide appropriate residency documentation to the college.

One of the following items may be provided to prove Georgia residency for the past 12 consecutive months:

- Georgia State Income Tax Form 500-most recent
- Georgia Driver's License-issued 12 months prior to the first day of the semester
- Georgia Automobile Registration-must provide past two receipts
- Georgia Voter Registration-issued 12 months prior to the first day of the semester

If this documentation is not received and verified, the student will be charged tuition at the out-of-state rate which is 2 times the in-state tuition rate.