



State of Alabama Out-of-State Tuition Waivers Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q – Who qualifies for the State of Alabama Waiver?

A – Undergraduate students who have established and maintained domicile in the state of Alabama for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the start of the term.

Q – Do graduate students qualify for the State of Alabama Waiver?

A – Graduate students who have established and maintained domicile in Chambers County, Lee County, or Russell County, Alabama for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the start of the term are eligible for the out-of-state tuition waiver. *Unfortunately, graduate students from other Alabama counties do not qualify for the waiver.*

Q – I already have a Border County Waiver; can I keep the waiver?

A – Yes, students that currently receive Boarder County Waivers are still eligible to keep those waivers.

Q – How do I apply for the State of Alabama Waiver?

A – Eligible students should complete the Alabama State Waiver form located online at: www.columbusstate.edu/alabama

Q – I am an Alabama resident and currently pay out-of-state tuition; can I apply for the Alabama State Waiver?

A – Yes, current undergraduate students may be eligible for the State of Alabama Residents waiver, effective spring term 2018.

Q – What are the requirements for a dependent student to be eligible for the State of Alabama Residents Waiver?

A – A dependent student must provide clear and convincing evidence that their parent(s) or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian has established and maintained domicile in Alabama for at least the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes for the term the waiver is requested. In addition, the dependent student must either have graduated from a high school in Alabama or be claimed as a dependent by their Alabama state domiciled parent or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian on their federal or state income tax return filed for the most recent tax year.

Q – What are the requirements for an independent student to be eligible for the State of Alabama Residents waiver?

A – An independent student must provide clear and convincing evidence that he or she has established and maintained domicile in Alabama for at least the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes for the term the waiver is requested.

Q – Once a student is determined to be eligible for the waiver, does he or she have to reapply for the waiver to continue to receive it?

A – No, once a student has been determined to be eligible for the Alabama State Residents Waiver, they are not required to reapply for the waiver provided continuous enrollment is maintained.

Q – Can a transient student be eligible for the State of Alabama Residents waiver?

A – Students that reside in the counties of Chamber, Lee, and Russell are the only students that could qualify for the waiver. All other students must be undergraduate, degree-seeking students.

Q – Are reentry/returning/readmit students eligible for the Alabama State Residents Waivers?

A – Yes, reentry/returning/readmit students are eligible to be considered for the State of Alabama Residents Waiver.

Q – Can a student receiving the Alabama State Residents Waiver continue to receive the waiver if they transfer to a USG institution not authorized to grant the waiver?

A – No, the Alabama State Residents Waiver may only be granted by those institutions approved by the Chancellor to award the waiver.

Q – Are students required to be lawfully present in the United States to be eligible for the State of Alabama State Residents Waiver?

A – Yes, per Board of Regents policy, no student may be classified as in-state or be granted an out-of-state tuition waiver until their lawful presence in the United States has been verified using one of the approved methods found at <https://admissions.columbusstate.edu/lawfulpresence.php>.

Q – If the information a student provides on their State of Alabama Residents waiver application is sufficient to determine eligibility, is it necessary for supporting documentation to be submitted?

A – No, if the information a student provides on their State of Alabama Residents waiver application clearly shows they meet the waiver requirements, it is not necessary to require that additional supporting documentation be submitted. If there is not clear and convincing evidence that the student meets the requirements, then additional information will be requested from the student. A student may also need to submit documentation to satisfy the lawful presence requirement if their lawful presence is not verified in some other way.