

WSU Residency for Tuition Purposes

Required Documents Checklist: Financially Independent Student

Submit documents in PDF, JPG, or PNG format. Photos of the document may be submitted, though Apple iPhone images must be converted to JPG (the iOS default is HEIC which we cannot open).

Domicile: Provide documents for the student living in Washington.

1. **Housing documentation** showing your **physical presence within the state** of Washington for the 12 month period prior to the term. (REQUIRED) You may spend time outside of Washington during school breaks if you do not take steps to establish a domicile in any another state. Housing documents must list the address, your name, and dates of occupation during the 12 month waiting period.
 - Lease or rental agreement pages showing address and term plus the signature page, **OR**
 - Home purchase agreement showing physical address & date of closing, **OR**
 - Letter from WSU housing, **OR**
 - Combination of rent receipts or tenant ledger (showing address) and mail delivered to the address, **OR**
 - Combination of a notarized letter from landlord or person you lived with and mail delivered the address.
2. **Driver's license, learner permit, or state identification card** issued in Washington state at least 11 months prior to the start of the term (REQUIRED). Maintaining state documents in another state is an indicator that you are NOT a Washington resident.
3. **Vehicle registration** issued in Washington state at least 11 months prior to the start of the term (REQUIRED, if you drive a vehicle in Washington). Leaving your vehicle registered in another state is an indicator that you are NOT a Washington resident. For vehicles obtained less than 11 months after moving to Washington, provide a bill of sale to explain the registration date.
4. **Voter Registration** (Optional).

Independence: Documentation of financial independence for the current and previous calendar year is required. More information at: <https://residency.wsu.edu/links-resources/>.

5. **Parent: Federal taxes for the previous calendar year** showing that the student is not claimed on a parent's federal income taxes. Income and SSN may be blacked out. Last 4 digits of dependents must remain visible. (REQUIRED for students who are less than 26 years old). Documents from earlier years are not accepted.
 - IRS Tax Transcript the tax year prior to this calendar year showing dependents, **OR**
 - Signed Federal 1040 first (dependent) and signature pages, **OR**
 - Notarized letter from the parent stating the intent to not claim the student when they are filed.
6. **Student: Documentation of personal financial resources for both the previous and current calendar year of at least 51% of the WSU Cost of Attendance (COA).** Allowed resources include:
 - Earnings documented on an IRS Tax Transcript, signed Federal 1040, **OR** W-2/1099 for previous calendar year. Married students may submit earnings for a spouse with a marriage certificate.
 - Earnings documented on the latest paycheck stub showing Year to Date (YTD) earnings for the current calendar year.
 - A trust account in the student's name (GET, 529 College Savings Plan, etc.) if the account was created

before the student entered high school. Documentation will include: the date the account was established, proof that the account was utilized for education expenses for the previous and/or current calendar year, and current account balance.

- Financial aid for previous and current calendar year. The Residency Officer will provide the latest information. Federal Parent PLUS loans exceeding 49% of the COA will contradict financial independence. Private education loans must include documentation of the borrower (a co-signer is allowed). Students receiving the WUE/Cougar Award may not use the time they are receiving the award towards establishing residency.
- Inheritance in the student's name with documentation.
- NOT ELIGIBLE: Cash earnings, checking & savings accounts, gifts, personal loans.

Immigration status: Required when the student is not a US Citizen. Include copies of both sides of any submitted documents.

- **Resident Alien Card, OR**
- **VISA, OR**
- **Other verification document** demonstrating an immigration status that is eligible for resident status in Washington.