

## Basic Checklist



Have you demonstrated all of the following?

\_\_\_\_\_ **Capacity** (legal ability to make NC your permanent home)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Presence** (currently residing in NC)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Intent** (performed various actions to make NC your permanent home for indefinite period of time)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Duration** (maintained legal residence for *at least* 12 months *prior* to submitting an application for residency classification)

For a copy of the North Carolina statute (G.S. 116-143.1) governing the eligibility for residency to qualify for in-state tuition, please visit the following address:  
<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us>

## Steps in the Application Process

- 1) Review the requirements for establishing residence for tuition purposes.
- 2) Respond to all parts of the application. Mark NA for questions that are not applicable.
- 3) Be completely accurate.
- 4) Do not leave any question blank.
- 5) Attach any documentation to your application which you feel will support your claim to NC residence for tuition purposes.
- 6) Remember to sign and date your application.
- 7) Submit only one application per term.
- 8) Return your completed application to the Admissions Officer, H.J. McGee Jr. Building.

## RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION FOR IN-STATE TUITION



**Carteret Community College**  
**3505 Arendell Street**  
**Morehead City, NC 28557**

**Joseph A. Croom**  
**Admissions Officer**  
**(252) 222-6155**  
**[admissions@carteret.edu](mailto:admissions@carteret.edu)**

**<http://www.carteret.edu/Admission/>**

## OVERVIEW

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Under North Carolina law, a person may qualify as a resident for tuition purposes in North Carolina and thereby eligible for a tuition rate lower than that for nonresidents. This benefit is reserved for those individuals who are actual legal residents of North Carolina; that is, those who have and will continue to contribute to the state.

The North Carolina General Assembly, by and through its enactment, has indicated that it wants the lower tuition to be available only to NC legal residents. There is no automatic right to be classified as an in-state student, and it is the student's burden to show the College that he/she is a legal resident for tuition purposes. The following parameters are the basics for determining residency classification:

- **Capacity and Presence**—the student must have the ability to make NC his/her permanent home and must be physically present in the state of NC.
- **Intent**—the student must perform various actions as evidence of making NC his/her permanent home (a place to which he/she intends to always return).
- **Duration**—the student must become a legal resident and remain a legal resident for at least twelve months immediately prior to classification thereby maintaining a domicile (permanent home of indefinite duration).



## CLASSIFICATION

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The starting point:  
establishing domicile

A student's domicile is his/her permanent dwelling place of indefinite duration and is established by:

- Birth or operation of law—a minor (under age 18) is presumed to have the domicile of his/her parents.
- Choice—a person may establish domicile of his/her choice.

Actions and activities:  
establishing intent

The requisite domiciliary intent is tested by evaluating relevant, objectively verifiable conduct or actions of the student such as:

- living or not living in the home of one's parents
- source of financial support
- payment of taxes: income and property
- vacations and time away
- work history
- time one enters the state
- place where personal property is kept
- driver's license
- car registration and/or licensure and/or insurance
- ownership of real property as a "homestead"
- registration to vote and voting history
- jury duty
- income tax withheld
- community activities
- personal activities
- "roommate" actions and activities

Qualifying period:  
12 months

Every applicant must make a statement as to his/her length of residency in the state. A 12-month qualifying period of maintaining a bona fide domicile rather than a temporary residence incident to enrollment is required to qualify as a resident for tuition purposes.

## SPECIFIC ISSUES

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Special rules and circumstances may affect the assessment of domicile for the following students:

- Minors
- Married persons
- Members of the armed forces
- Aliens and refugees
- Federal personnel
- Prisoners

Exceptions are also made for certain minors, families transferred by business within the past 12 months (up to 1% of total out-of-state students), students with employer-paid tuition, lawfully admitted public high school graduates, non-profit corporation sponsorships, teachers, emergency workers and persons 65 years or older.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

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It is the student's responsibility to provide the College with the necessary information to prove in-state status. Remember the bottom line:

**Capacity + Presence + Intent + 12 Months**

For a residency application, contact the Admissions Office in the McGee building or our website <http://www.carteret.edu/Admission/>.