

How to establish yourself as an **IOWA RESIDENT** for tuition and fee purposes



NOTE: The information below is only accurate for students admitted by May 1, 2017.
(Visit registrar.uiowa.edu/residency for the updated residency policy beginning May 1, 2017)

You must:

- Live in Iowa, working 20 hours per week (average) to support yourself, for 12 consecutive months (a full year, 1040 hrs minimum worked in Iowa, with Iowa tax withheld and demonstrated by regular pay statements).
- Obtain your own Iowa documents—driver's license, voter registration, and register your vehicles (if any) in Iowa by the end of September, 2017.
- Enroll *no more than* half-time.

Undergraduate students are limited to:

Maximum 6 s.h. during Fall 2017
Maximum 6 s.h. during Spring 2018
Maximum 4 s.h. during Summer 2018

Graduate students are limited to:

Maximum 5 s.h. during Fall
Maximum 5 s.h. during Spring
Maximum 4 s.h. during Summer

- Be sure that Iowa taxes are withheld from your pay and begin filing your own annual Iowa *resident* income tax returns. (Using an Iowa-based tax preparer is strongly recommended. In January, watch for the Tippie College of Business VITA group for free tax preparation help.)
- Cease being claimed as a dependent by your parents (or anyone else) on tax returns in any other state.

Submission dates for filing the Application for Resident Classification

New Fall residents—submit your application around July 1, 2018, depending on when your employer provides your pay statement for the working day of June 30, 2018.

It is to your advantage to submit your application promptly.

Missing the suggested submission date means that you will initially receive a nonresident bill and be obligated to pay it. If you meet the deadline later and are determined to be eligible as a resident, a credit will be applied to your University account.

Applications for the current semester will NOT be accepted after the 15th day of class.

Mistakes that will disqualify you

Common mistakes resulting in denial of resident status include:

- **Working in another state** (for example, returning to your former state in mid-December and resuming your old job during the holiday season).
- **Excessive absences** or not being able to prove that you were living and working in Iowa for 12 consecutive months.
- **Poor (or no) documentation:** no lease, rent checks, or utility bills because you were living with a friend/relative, or no verifiable employment during summer or winter breaks, etc.

Remember, it is your responsibility to update your residing (local) address using MyUI within three days of moving.

Things to consider

Establishing yourself as an Iowan has tuition benefits. However, you and your family should consider:

- What it means to your family's finances if your parents can no longer claim you as a dependent on their income tax returns;
- The impact reduced (or no) enrollment will have for you in reaching your academic goals in a timely manner. For example, does your intended program or major admit students each semester or just once each year?
- The burden of establishing that you are in Iowa for reasons other than education falls on you. This means that you must keep good personal financial records. Keep copies of your lease(s), pay stubs, income tax returns, initial Iowa driver's license, etc. These documents or signed affidavits may be requested to support your Application for Resident Classification.
- A student who gives incorrect or misleading information to evade payment shall be subject to serious disciplinary action and must also repay the nonresident fees. (*Iowa Administrative Code*)

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