Who Can Establish California Residency?

According to the State Chancellor’s Office and Title V requirements the definitions are as follows:

**RESIDENCE EC 68017, 68062; T5 54020**

In order to establish a residence, it is necessary that there be a union of act and intent. To establish residence, a person capable of establishing residence in California must couple his/her physical presence in California with objective evidence that the physical presence is with the intent to make California the home for other than a temporary purpose.

**PHYSICAL PRESENCE EC 68017; T5 54022**

a. A person capable of establishing residence in California must be physically present in California for one year prior to the residence determination date to be classified as a resident student.
b. A temporary absence for business, education or pleasure will not result in loss of California residence if, during the absence, the person always intended to return to California and did nothing inconsistent with that intent.
c. Physical presence within the state solely for educational purposes does not constitute establishing California residence regardless of length of that presence.

**California Residency Guidelines for Students**

Student must have lived in California for one year and a day prior to the start of the semester. However, student must prove both **physical presence and intent**, and provide documentation of such. That documentation is used to determine the start date of the year and a day.

“Physical presence within California solely for educational purposes does not allow a student to establish residence, regardless of the length of time present in the state.” ECS 68060, 68061, 68062; T5 54022, 54045

**Acceptable Evidence of INTENT to make California the student's permanent home (we ask for multiple evidence from list below—provide documentation with the Residency Questionnaire):**

- Continuous occupancy of rented/leased/owned residential property (name must be on lease or mortgage)
- Employment in CA (pay stub from when first became employed)
- Indicating a CA address on CA State and Federal income tax forms (provide first pages of tax return)
- Possession of CA motor vehicle license plates (provide copy of registration)
- Possession of a CA driver's license
- Register to vote, and voting in CA (must provide proof from Voter Registration. Can go on webpage and search for name to print out http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/registration-status/ )
- Maintain active savings and checking accounts in CA banks (must be a local branch of bank NOT the general national bank address)

**Evidence that a student will not be eligible to be a CA resident:**

1. A student who returns to the home of his/her parents or other in another state or country for periods when the institution is not in session.
2. Classification of a student as a resident for tuition purposes by a university or college outside of CA.
3. Claimed as a dependent on parents’ income tax and parents’ residence is outside of CA.