You qualify as an independent student if:

- You can document continuous presence in Arizona for at least 12 months, and
- You can document 12 months of intent to be an Arizona resident (includes financial independence), and
- You can overcome the presumption that you are in Arizona primarily to be a student.

Submitting an Independent Student Petition

1. Start at the Residency Petition Dashboard: [https://go.oasis.asu.edu/residencypetition/](https://go.oasis.asu.edu/residencypetition/)
2. Initiate your petition by completing the online questionnaire prior to the deadline.
3. Complete your petition by submitting all requested documentation prior to the deadline.

Required Documents

Your required documents will be dependent on your situation and how you answer the questions on the petition. There is not a single list that applies to everyone, but the list below includes the most common documents requested. You may be asked to provide something that is not listed below and you will have an opportunity to provide anything you think is relevant or helpful to your situation.

- Receipt for $50 petition fee
- Driver’s license, instructional permit, or state ID
- Voter registration
- Vehicle registration for any vehicle driven in Arizona
- Permanent Resident Card or eligible visa
- Marriage certificate
- Mortgage deed or other documentation confirming property owned in Arizona
- Residential lease or rental agreement
- Current pay stub with year-to-date information and state withholding details
- Most recent federal tax return (Form 1040)
- Most recent Arizona tax return (Form 140)
- Complete bank or credit card statements for 12 months documenting day-to-day transactions in Arizona
- Student account summary for tuition and fees paid for all schools attended in the last year, excluding ASU
- Financial Aid disbursements for all schools attended in the last year, excluding ASU
- Statements from 529 plans, trusts or other savings accounts for the last two years
- Private Loan Promissory Note or other verification of co-signer status
- Parent Affidavit – completed and signed by parent
- Parents’ federal tax returns for last two tax years

What else do I need to know?

Your documentation needs to demonstrate that you are an independent student supporting yourself financially (including housing and tuition) and that you have been living in Arizona for at least one year with the intention of making Arizona your permanent home for reasons beyond the circumstance of being a student.

- You will be asked to submit documentation demonstrating at least 12 months of continuous presence and intent to be an Arizona resident, e.g. the customary legal and physical ties to Arizona. The burden of proof belongs to the student and failure to support your petition will result in a denial.
- The documentation you submit, including your bank statements, tax returns, financial aid, enrollment history, parental support, and employment are all used to help us piece together an understanding of your particular situation. Submitting all documents helps paint a complete picture but doesn’t ensure approval.
- If you are in Arizona primarily for educational purposes, i.e. you came to Arizona to go to school, you won’t qualify for residency as an independent student. To overcome this presumption you will need to provide compelling evidence that shows your educational pursuits are secondary to your other reasons for being in Arizona.
• You can’t earn residency by simply being a student for a year. ABOR policy is pretty clear that no one establishes residency while enrolled full-time without evidence to the contrary.

• Financial assistance of any type – housing, tuition, insurance, etc. - from others is an indicator of dependency and will be considered in the review of your petition.

• Absences from the state of more than 30 days will require you to show objective evidence that you retained your Arizona domicile.

• Personal circumstances not pertaining to residency policy, such as academic merit or financial hardship, are not considered by the Residency Classification Office when they review your petition.

• Delaying (or not obtaining) the legal and customary indicators of intent are considered evidence of a lack of intent to be an Arizona resident (state law requires residents to do these things immediately).

• All documentation is subject to review by the residency office and the evaluator will determine the weight given to each document. The Residency Office will be sole judge of the authenticity or truthfulness of any material or statements submitted and may do additional research regarding any supporting documents.

• Additional documentation may be requested by the residency office after an initial review of your petition by the Residency Office.

• The term “resident for tuition purposes” differs from other definitions of Arizona residency. For example, a person who is an Arizona resident for voting or tax purposes may not be a resident for tuition purposes.

• Students that are classified as residents are required to verify citizenship, lawful status or eligible visa types. Non-U.S. citizens must possess a visa type that does not prohibit them from establishing a permanent home in Arizona. Students on F-1/J-1 visas are not eligible for residency.