Residency Determination Service

North Carolina

RDS
Residency Determination Service

Find Your Place in Our State
1. Primary Changes to Online Interview
2. Clarifications in Policy/Law
3. Common Scenarios
4. Other Tips and Reminders
Primary Changes to Online Interview
Removed the question in regards to a specific addresses and made the homeless question visible to all (not part of the skip logic).
Residency Determination Service

Changes since Fall 2018

- Redesign of the student determination screens
- Students receive their RCN number and residency determination, followed by a “Next Steps” screen directing them what to do next based off of their residency classification.
Your Residency Certification Number (RCN) is 1100212005

Your Determination is

Residency Status: North Carolina Resident  Tuition Status: In State  Valid Until: October 13, 2020

You will be emailed if your residency status changes due to validation. You may continue to submit your admission application(s) or register for classes.

VIEW REQUEST SUMMARY  NEXT STEPS →

Complete any of the following if it applies to you:

1. Finish and submit any admission applications.
   - You have NO open admission applications through CFNC.
2. Give your RCN to your campus.
4. Register for classes.
5. Log back in at any time to review your information.

← BACK  EXIT →
All of the Status pages have been updated with a “Reconsideration/Appeal” button replacing the “Think your determination is incorrect?” link. Informational screens then direct the student to request a Reconsideration or Appeal.
Redesign of document submission process to show progress bar
Grounds for Appeal removed from RDS Appeal Form

Students had been requested to select and explain their formal ground(s) for appeal. These formal grounds for appeal have been moved from the RDS Appeal to the SEAA Appeal. The RDS Appeal now asks a student to answer the question “Why are you requesting an appeal?”
Social Service Program Changes:

• Reduced documents needed for social service programs

• Students indicating participation in certain social service programs will only be requested to provide one document now instead of two documents

• Students should not be requested to provide a Work First Letter or Medicaid Card as part of the online interview (may be needed in an Appeal)
For students ages 18-23, a question was added in the Student Information section asking whether he/she is attending, or has graduated from, a NC HS or obtained a GED. In addition, a question was added asking whether a student’s parent(s) live in North Carolina.
For all students, the question regarding parent support was modified for clarity to include examples of support.
Questions removed from online interview:

✓ Removed the option to add multiple vehicle registrations when only one is needed
✓ Removed the issue date and expiration dates from the Driver’s License Information page
✓ Removed the Filing Status question from the Tax Information page
✓ Removed the EIN and start date/end dates from the Employment Information page and Financial Self-Sufficiency page
The NC General Assembly recently passed a law allowing students who graduate from a NC High School to be considered on their own merit IF they indicate in RDS that they are not supported by their parents.

The change does not mean a student receives an automatic residency classification if they have graduated from a NC high school. It means RDS will ask residency questions about the student, not the parents.

The law does not change requirements around non-US citizen eligibility. Students still need to show evidence of being a NC resident, which will include graduation from a NC high school and other factors that show ‘capacity, presence, intent, and duration.’
Citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau are now eligible immigration statuses; students will have to provide proof such as, a Copy of I-94 and a Copy of an unexpired passport.

New Employment Authorization Document (EAD) category codes are eligible: A4 and C19

Students must hold an eligible immigration status for 12 months
Common Scenarios
Prima Facie

✓ Residency is based on the parent’s domicile unless the student can prove otherwise
✓ “Non-Legal” guardians cannot be considered – must be a court appointed legal guardian
✓ 5 Year Rule is generally used
✓ Unique identifier is requested on parent for electronic validation – if parent chooses not to provide, or does not have, student can submit appeal.
RDS Online Interview – Student Experience

DACA and Undocumented Students

- DACA and undocumented students are, by law, not NC Residents for tuition purposes
- Select No to the first question in the interview “Do you claim residency”
Citizen Student with Undocumented Parents

✓ Student citizens with undocumented parents ARE eligible for residency for tuition and state aid purposes

✓ Residency for dependent student is, by law, based on parent(s) information. If parent does not want to provide information for online interview student has opportunity to appeal:
  - Student is asked to provide proof of parent(s) NC residency, not citizenship status, if not provided in the RDS Online Interview
  - The goal is to connect the student – to the parent – to NC being the true family domicile.
  - If student or parent(s) cannot provide documentation, student remains non (NC) Resident and Out of State tuition
Students who acknowledge unstable address history are flagged to assist RDS in working with the student, if needed.

A student identified as McKinney-Vento does not automatically receive a resident status.

If student has an unstable address history and online interview identifies student may be non-resident, RDS alerts student that the determination is “Under Review” instead of giving a non-resident classification.

RDS reaches out to student by end of next business day using the information in the student’s profile.

RDS works one-on-one with the student to understand situation and identify information which can be used to support residency.
Other Tips and Reminders
Common Issues and Tips

- RDS uses the CFNC login platform. If a student has a CFNC account there is no need to create an RDS account.
- Do not have students complete RDS any earlier than the summer before their senior year in high school.
- Students often enter incorrect identifying information in system such as name, date-of-birth, and SSN, for themselves or for parents.
- Students skip too many questions in interview leaving nothing for RDS to consider or validate.
- Students claim to be independent from their parents, but do not provide evidence of income.
Residency Determination Service

Student Assistance

• RDS Web site – [www.ncresidency.org](http://www.ncresidency.org)
  ✓ FAQs: What to Know
  ✓ Resource one-pagers
  ✓ RDS Guidebook

• Student Help Line: 844.319.3640
  ✓ 3rd party release
  ✓ Hours: 8 AM – 8 PM Monday – Thursday
  8 AM – 5 PM Friday

• Student Email: [rdsinfo@ncresidency.org](mailto:rdsinfo@ncresidency.org)
Questions