Residency Information

The California Education Code states that all public institutions of higher education shall apply uniform rules in determining a student’s residency classification. Therefore, each student applying for admission to Cypress College will be classified as a resident or nonresident of California. (California Education Code, Sections 68000-68084, 68120-68143, and 76140).

Tuition Fee for Nonresident Students
If you have not been living in California with intent to make it your permanent home for more than one year immediately before the residence determination date for each term in which you propose to attend the college, you must pay a nonresident tuition fee in addition to all other fees. The residence determination date is one year and one day before the first day of the applicable term.

Who is a Resident?
If you are an adult (other than an alien in a nonimmigrant status that precludes you from establishing domicile in the U.S., such as a B,C,D,F,H,J, or M visa) and you want to be classified as a resident for tuition purposes, you must have established residence in California more than one year immediately preceding the residence determination date for the term during which you propose to attend the college. You must also have given up any previous residence more than one year before the residence determination date, and you must present objective evidence that you have intended for more than one year before the residence determination date to make California your permanent home. You must demonstrate both presence and intent for one full year before the residence determination date. Physical presence within the state solely for educational purposes does not constitute the establishment of California residence, regardless of the length of your stay. Your residence cannot be derived from that of your spouse or your parents, if you are over 19 years of age.

Establishing Intent to Become a California Resident
Indications of your intent to make California your permanent residence can include the following: registering to vote and voting in California elections; designating California as your permanent address on all school and employment records, including military records if you are in the military service; maintaining a California driver’s license, or if you do not drive, a California Identification Card; obtaining California vehicle registration; paying California income taxes as a resident, including taxes on income earned outside California from the date you establish residence; establishing a California residence in which you keep your personal belongings; and obtaining a license for professional practice in California. Documentary evidence is required and all relevant information will be considered in determining your classification.

General Rules Applying to Minors
If you are an unmarried minor (under age 18), the residence of the parent with whom you live is considered to be your residence. If you have a parent living, you cannot change your residence by your own act, by the appointment of a legal guardian, or by the relinquishment of your parent’s right of control. If you lived with neither parent, your residence is that of the parent whom you last lived. Unless you are present in the U.S. under the terms of a nonimmigrant visa that precludes you from establishing domicile in the U.S. (see above), you may establish your own residence when both your parents are deceased and a legal guardian has not been appointed. If you derive California residence from a parent, that parent must satisfy the one-year duration residence requirements.

Exemptions from Nonresident Tuition

1. Member of the Military
   If you are a member of the U.S. military stationed in California on active duty, unless you are assigned for educational purposes to a state-supported institution of higher education, you may be exempt from the nonresident tuition fee until you have lived in California long enough to become a resident under the regular procedure. You may be asked to provide a statement from your commanding officer or personnel officer stating that your assignment to active duty to California is not for educational purposes. The letter should include the dates of your assignment to the state.

2. Spouse or Other Dependents of Military Personnel
   You are exempt from payment of the nonresident tuition fee if you are: a spouse, a natural or adopted child, or stepchild who is a dependent of a member of the U.S. military stationed in California on active duty. This exemption is available until you have lived in California long enough to become a resident under the regular procedure. You must petition for a waiver of the nonresident tuition fee each term you are eligible. If you are enrolled in an educational institution and the member of the military is transferred on military orders to a place outside California where he or she continues to serve in the armed forces, or the member of the military retires from active duty immediately after having served in California on active duty, you may retain this exemption until you have lived in California long enough to become a resident under the regular procedure.

Reclassification
You must petition in person at the Admissions and Records Office for a change of classification from nonresident to resident status. You must initiate the petition prior to the first day of classes for the semester for which you seek reclassification.

Inquiries and Appeals
Additional detailed resident information is included in the current college catalog, available for purchase in the college bookstore or for review in the college library or Admissions and Records Office. Inquiries regarding resident requirements should be directed to the Admissions and Records Office.

You are cautioned that this information is NOT a complete explanation of the law regarding residence. Please note that changes in the residence requirements may be made between the publication of this information and the relevant residence determination date.
Residency Determination Checklist

Student Permanent ID Number: @

Legal Name:

Last
First
M.I.
mm/dd/yyyy

In order to comply with the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Sections 54020-54028, a student who wishes to change status from nonresident to resident for tuition purposes must prove both physical presence in California and intend to make California the permanent home for one full year immediately preceding the residence determination date for the applicable semester. Presence and intent may be manifested in many ways: no one factor is controlling.

Listed below are items that you may present as evidence of presence and intent. You must present a minimum of TWO ITEMS. All official documents presented must be valid, readable, and dated at least one year before the residence determination date, and be properly identified with your name and address.

Your documents must be dated on or before: ________________________________

Your parent’s documents must be dated on or before: ________________________________

PLEASE COME TO THE ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS OFFICE TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS. We are located by parking lot #1: one-day parking passes are available.

1. California driver’s license or Department of Motor Vehicles documentation of California driver’s license issuance date and current validity. State law requires a resident driver to obtain a California driver’s license with 10 days from the date residence is established.

2. California Identification Card. This item is not applicable if student has item 1.

3. California Department of Motor Vehicles Registration Certificate showing possession of California license plates.

4. Documentation of California employment, such as check stubs, a letter from the employer on company letterhead stating your permanent address and dates of employment as listed on company records, or dated company identification.

5. Bank statements, canceled checks, or passbooks showing that you have established and maintained active California bank accounts.

6. California State Income Tax Form 540NR (required by law of any part-year, taxpaying resident of California) or 540 or 540A from previous year. Any one of these forms may require dated check stubs, a note from the employer stating that work began at least one year before the residence determination date, or other documentation.

7. Federal Income Tax Form 1040A or 1040EZ from previous year with California address and/or set of W-2 Forms from previous year with California address and place of employment. Any one of these forms may require dated check stubs, a note from the employer stating that work began one year before the residence determination date, or other documentation. This item is not applicable if you have presented a California income tax form.

8. Voter Registration showing registration to vote in California.

9. Documentation of purchase of residential real estate in California and living there, such as loan papers, tax receipts, or escrow papers, or of a rental of a residence, such as a lease.

10. Selective Service Registration Card with a California permanent address.

11. Form DD214 showing a permanent military address or home of record in California while in the armed forces.

12. Documentation of the student as a California resident having received rehabilitation, unemployment, welfare, or other State services, such as service receipts or agreements, or certification by the appropriate agency showing the student as recipient.

13. A legal document showing you as the petitioner for a divorce in California.

14. License from California for professional practice.

15. Documentation of active resident membership in California professional, service, or social organization. School organizations are not accepted.

VISA STUDENTS ONLY (bring in if apply): You must comply with visa regulations, in addition to proving presence and intent.