

**The following definitions of terms apply in the determination of a student's classification for tuition purposes in the University System of Georgia.**

- a. Adoption – A legally recognized relationship that creates a parent-child relationship between individuals who are not biologically related to each other.
- b. Adult Student – An emancipated individual, over the age of 18.
- c. Asylee – A foreign national who is unable or unwilling to return to his or her country of nationality because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on the alien's race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. A stamp reading "Asylum status granted pursuant to Section 208, USCIS" affirms an individual's official status as an asylee.
- d. Continuously enrolled student – A student who makes satisfactory academic progress toward completion of a degree, diploma, or certificate program of study at a public postsecondary educational institution or accredited, bona fide study abroad program in the State of Georgia without a break in enrollment of more than one traditional academic semester (fall or spring). A student who is not enrolled for two or more consecutive traditional academic semesters is not considered to be a continuously enrolled student.
- e. Dependent student – An individual under the age of 24 who receives financial support from a parent or United States court appointed legal guardian.
- f. Domicile – A person's present, permanent home where that individual intends to stay indefinitely and to which that individual returns following periods of temporary absence. Domicile, once established, shall not be affected by mere transient or temporary physical presence in another state. No individual may have more than one domicile even though an individual may maintain more than one residence. Temporary residence does not constitute the establishment of one's domicile. To acquire domicile, an individual must demonstrate intent to remain permanently or indefinitely.
- g. Durational Requirement – The period of 12 consecutive months after the individual has established domicile and preceding the first day of classes for intended term of enrollment.
- h. Emancipated – A minor who under certain circumstances may be treated by the law as an adult. A student reaching the age of 18 shall not qualify for consideration of reclassification by virtue of having become emancipated unless he/she can demonstrate financial independence and domicile independent of his/her parents.
- i. Eligible non-citizens – Refugees, persons granted asylum, certain conditional entrants, persons paroled into the U.S. for at least one year who can demonstrate an intent to become a legal permanent resident, and Cuban-Haitian entrants.
- j. Full-time employment – An annual earned income reported for tax purposes which is equivalent to minimum wage earned by working forty hours per week during fifty work-weeks per year.
- k. Immigrant – A foreign national issued an immigrant visa by the Department of State overseas, or a foreign national who has adjusted to permanent resident status by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in the United States. An immigrant is legally accorded the privilege of residing permanently in the United States.
- l. Independent student – An individual who is not claimed as a dependent on the federal or state income tax returns of a parent or United States court-appointed legal guardian and whose parent or guardian has ceased to provide support and rights to that individual's care, custody and earnings.
- m. In-state tuition classification – Status granted to a student, in accordance with the policies of the Board of Regents, who has been determined eligible to pay tuition at the in-state rate.

- n. International student – An individual who enters the United States temporarily for the purpose of attending an educational institution under a nonimmigrant visa status that does not permit long-term, indefinite or permanent residence in the United States.
- o. Lawful permanent resident – [also known as *Permanent Resident Alien*, *Resident Alien Permit Holder*, and *Green Card Holder*] A non-citizen residing in the United States under legally recognized and lawfully recorded permanent residence status as an immigrant.
- p. Legal guardian – An individual who has been granted custody of a dependent person (under the age of 24) by a court in the United States.
- q. Military personnel – Full-time members of the Armed Forces of the United States, and active-duty commissioned officers by the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- r. Minor student – An unemancipated student under the age of 18 years of age.
- s. Non-citizen – A person who is not a U.S.-born or naturalized citizen of the United States.
- t. Nonimmigrant – A foreign national who maintains permanent residence abroad and seeks temporary entry to the United States. Nonimmigrant classifications include foreign government officials; visitors for business and for pleasure; aliens in transit through the United States; treaty traders and investors; students; international representatives; temporary workers and trainees; representatives of foreign information media; exchange visitors; fiancé(e)s of U.S. citizens; intra-company transferees; NATO officials; religious workers; witnesses or informants; victims of trafficking or certain crimes; NAFTA professionals; humanitarian parole status individuals; dependents of lawful permanent residents awaiting lawful permanent resident status; and Temporary Protected Status individuals. Nonimmigrant classifications which allow temporary presence in the United States but prohibit the establishment of domicile in the United States include visitors for business and for pleasure; aliens in transit through the United States; students; temporary workers and trainees; representatives of foreign information media; exchange visitors; and NAFTA professionals.
- u. Non-resident – A person who has not had an established domicile in the State of Georgia for a period of at least 12 months prior to the first day of classes for the term for which the person is intending to enroll at a postsecondary educational institution in Georgia.
- v. Out-of-state tuition classification – Status granted to a student, in accordance with the policies of the Board of Regents, who has been determined to be ineligible to pay tuition at the in-state rate.
- w. Out-of-state tuition waiver – A waiver of the difference in tuition paid by students classified as out-of-state and those classified as in-state for tuition purposes.
- x. Postsecondary educational institution – An institution of higher (tertiary) education, public or private, above the high-school level.
- y. Refugee – [See *Asylee*]
- z. Residency – [See also *In-state tuition classification* and *Domicile*] Residency is the state and country where an individual currently lives. An individual may be residing in Georgia and may be classified as having established Georgia residency for securing marital status, a driver's license, or classification of taxpayer status but does not meet the qualifications to establish domicile in Georgia.
- aa. Title IV regulations - Federal regulations governing Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, found in Chapter Six of Title 34 of the Federal Register.
- bb. U.S. citizen – A citizen of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.
- cc. U.S. national – A citizen of American Samoa and Swain's Island.