



November 15, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council of Senior Student Affairs Officers

VIA: Hae K. Okimoto, PhD
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

FROM: University of Hawaii Residency Officers Board

SUBJECT: Final Residency Rules Resolutions

Representatives from the University of Hawaii Residency Officers Board met on July 31, 2019 to finalize and streamline how residency determination will be made by all campuses within the University of Hawaii system. The following are the resolutions that have been agreed to and will be effective immediately.

No single evidence shall be decisive. The residency officer will consider all information provided (past and current records).

NEW RULES:

- A. **1-year + HI Taxes rule:** If an applicant answers: yes to 1-year physical presence and yes to filing Hawaii state taxes = may be considered resident.
- B. **5-year rule:** If applicant has 5 or more years of physical presence in the state, answers “no” to filing taxes but is registered to vote in Hawaii = may be considered a resident.
 - b-1. Military dependents: Apply 5-year rule - If the applicant has physical presence of 5 or more years, answers no to filing taxes but is registered to vote in Hawaii = may be considered a resident as long as not claimed for tax purposes in another state.
- C. **Hawaii High School rule (aka: Geri’s Rule):** If applicant says no to taxes, no to voting but was born in Hawaii, graduated from a Hawaii high school and is 24 or younger = the assumption is student is still living at home supported by parent and may be considered a resident.

- D. **Permanent Resident:** Accept student self-report, then may be considered a resident.
- E. **J Exemption for CoFA** (FSM, the Marshall Islands, Northern Mariana, Palau, American Samoa): Accept student self-report; charge \$25 non-resident application fee.
- F. **VA-Exemption:** UH System VA Exemption Form may not be required if document (i.e. COE, VA 1905, DD 214, etc.) is provided.
- G. **For CCs - If 16 or younger and graduated from high school/GED:** Will ask for proof of high school diploma or GED.
- H. **For States that have no State Taxes** (Washington, Wyoming, Texas, Tennessee, South Dakota, New Hampshire, Nevada, Florida, Alaska): Will check Federal Taxes to confirm dependent status and/or address of record.
- I. **Legal Guardianship:** Will ask for legal documentation.
 - a. If applicant answers “no” to parents claimed student on taxes regardless of age = accept student’s self-report.
- J. **Voting (aka The Rola Rule):** If student left Hawaii to attend out-of-state college and paid nonresident tuition, registering to vote in another state may not automatically disqualify student from being classified as a resident.
 - a. Other evidence may be reviewed to determine residency
- K. **Native Hawaiian Exemption:** To qualify for the Native Hawaiian exemption, applicants are required to provide proof of ancestry by procuring a State or government issued birth certificate that reflects Hawaiian ancestry or OHA Registry Card (since documentation of Hawaiian ancestry was produced); do not charge \$25 non-resident application fee.
- L. **M Status:** For student classified as M status and MV hold is still active, we will not ask for documentation (e.g. military orders) and will continue that student as M residency.

c: UH System Residency Officers: Flora Mora, Geri Imai, Grant Helgeson, Jerilynn Enokawa, Josephine Stenberg, Kailana Soto, Sherise Tiogangco, Steve Rola, Zachary Street, Ralynn Kobashigawa