

PETITION TO BECOME A MISSISSIPPI RESIDENT FOR TUITION PURPOSES

This petition will not be accepted unless copies of ALL required relevant documents are attached. Please return to Ashley Reed in the Office of the Registrar at 221 Garner Hall. You may contact her by email at anp489@msstate.edu or by phone at 662.325.2662 if you have any questions.

***Petitions must be signed & notarized and received in hand by the Office of the Registrar on or before the last day a student may register without penalty. (See semester deadline dates below.)** Petitions will not be approved for the current semester/term after that date. The petitioner may resubmit the petition for the next future semester he or she will attend.

Nonresidents may petition Mississippi State University for a change of residency classification. Mississippi State Law requires a person must reside in the state continuously for a period not less than 12 months following their 21st birthday.

A person must provide documentary evidence as to completing the minimum residency requirement of 12 continuous months. The list of required documents can be found on the next page.

*** Deadline for Spring 2026: January 22, 2026**

A person must provide proof that they have obtained all of the following items proving Mississippi residency)

- Actual physical residence of habitation
- Length of time at actual physical residence
- Residence used for income tax, loan, banking, and other purposes
- Voter registration
- Motor vehicle registration (Persons moving into the state on a permanent basis have 30 days per state law to register vehicles.)
- Driver's license held (Persons moving into the state on a permanent basis have 60 days per state law to acquire driver's licenses.)
- State to which personal income taxes or other taxes paid
- Status of income sources
- Location of bank, savings, and other accounts

The following items must be submitted with your application

- Mississippi driver's license
- Mississippi voter registration card or Mississippi car tag (vehicle registration)
- A 12-month lease or home deed
- W2 and Federal & State Tax Return reflecting Mississippi residence
- Bank statement

Responsibility for Reporting Change: It is the individual student's responsibility to report immediately to the Registrar any change which will affect his or her residence status under these regulations.

STEPS TO BECOME A MISSISSIPPI RESIDENT FOR TUITION PURPOSES:

A. SUMMER TERMS AND FALL SEMESTER

If you are petitioning for your Mississippi residency to be effective for the start of SUMMER TERMS AND FALL SEMESTER

You must be at least 22 years of age. You must physically reside in the state 12 months or longer after your 21st birthday AND hold all of the following Mississippi documents prior to submission of a petition application:

- Show Mississippi residence used for state/federal tax returns, loans, W2s, etc. Provide copy of last received W2 form, if any.
Provide copy of first page of previous year's Mississippi State Tax Return address and dependent information.
Provide copy of first page of previous year's Federal Tax Return address and dependent information.
If under age 24, must provide copy of first page of parent's previous year's Federal Tax return showing dependent and address information.
(If applying for Summer or Fall, must have copies of previous year's tax returns, i.e., applying for Summer 2025 or Fall 2025, you must have copies of 2024 tax returns.)
- Motor Vehicle registration
- Driver License
- Voter Registration
- Location of bank accounts
- International students must have resident alien card issued by **INS**.

B. SPRING SEMESTER

If you are petitioning for your Mississippi residency to be effective for the start of SPRING SEMESTER

You must be at least 22 years of age. You must physically reside in the state 12 months or longer after your 21st birthday AND hold all the following Mississippi documents prior to submission of a petition application:

- Show Mississippi residence used for state/federal tax returns, loans, W2s, etc. Provide copy of last received W2 form, if any.
Provide copy of first page of student's previous year's Mississippi State Tax Return address and dependent information.
Provide copy of first page of student's previous year's Federal Tax Return address and dependent information.
If under age 24, must provide copy of first page of parent's previous year's Federal Tax return showing dependent and address information.
(If applying for Spring, you must have copies of previous year's tax returns, i.e. applying for Spring 2026, provide copies of your 2024 tax returns).
 - If your residency cannot be based on the last tax returns filed and is based on residency changes since January 1 and you were 24 years of age or less as of last December 31, you must also:
 - 1) Provide a notarized sworn affidavit from your parents that they have not provided 50% or more of your support for the last year and that they will NOT claim you as a dependent on the Federal and/or State tax return when they file their tax returns.
 - 2) Provide a notarized sworn affidavit that you will file a Federal and/or Mississippi State Tax Return (if you are required to file) and that you will not be claimed as a dependent on your parent's tax returns.
 - 3) Agree to provide copies of your personal tax returns and your parent's returns when completed no later than April 15. MSU has the right to retroactively charge out-of-state tuition if tax returns are not provided.
- Motor vehicle registration
 - Driver License
 - Voter Registration
 - Location of bank accounts
 - International students must have resident alien card issued by **INS**.

PETITION FOR MISSISSIPPI RESIDENCE CLASSIFICATION



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY

PERSONAL DATA

1. Name as listed on institutional records:

_____	_____	_____
Last	First	Middle/Maiden

2. Student ID Number: _____ or SSN (not required): _____

3. Date of Birth: _____

4. Address: _____

5. Phone Number: _____

6. If married,

a. Name of spouse: _____

b. Place of marriage: _____

c. Date of marriage: _____
(Attach a copy of the marriage certificate)

d. Occupation and place of employment of spouse: _____

e. Residence status of spouse: _____

For MSU only:

(Updated August 31, 2016)

Action: () **Approved*** () **Disapproved*** **Effective Date:** _____

Date

Registrar

*See attached letter

EMPLOYMENT DATA

List all employment for past two years:

Dates From To (Mo/Yr) (Mo/Yr)	Employer	City/State	Full Time	Part Time*

*If less than full-time (40 hrs/week) indicate number of hours

EDUCATIONAL DATA

- I. Date of first enrollment at Mississippi State University _____ Semester, 20____.
2. Date of most recent registration at Mississippi State University _____ Semester, 20____.
3. Educational attendance for the past four years:

From	To	Institution	City/State	Full or Part Time	Residency Status

PERSONAL STATEMENT

1. I hereby submit this petition requesting in-state status for fee-payment purposes for _____ semester 20____.
2. I claim that my permanent residence in Mississippi began on _____ month/day/year.
3. I am claiming _____ County Mississippi as my official county of residency.
4. My former permanent residence was the state of _____.
5. My absences from Mississippi (other than vacation or visitation of two weeks or less) after the date I claim my permanent residence in Mississippi.

Absence From: To: (Mo/Day/Yr) (Mo/Day/Yr)	Location Visited City/State	Reason for Absence

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- This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

HOUSING INFORMATION

1. Present type of housing: (circle one)
House Dorm Apartment Room Other (specify) _____
2. Date of lease or purchase of home: _____
(Attach copy of warranty deed if purchasing home).
3. If renting, length of lease: _____
4. Please list your dwelling addresses for the past four years. (Include current address).

[illegible]

TAX AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

1. Mississippi individual Income Tax Return:
(Attach copy of most recent state of Mississippi individual Income Tax Return and W-2 Form)
-
2. Taxes paid to other states during the past four years: (indicate state and year)
-
3. Residence as shown on Federal Income Tax Return for most recent year:
(Attach copy of Federal Tax Return and W-2 Form)
-
4. County in Mississippi to which property tax was paid during most recent tax year.
(Attach copy of tax receipt)
-
5. Were you claimed by your parent(s) as a dependent for State/Federal individual income tax purposes in the most recent calendar year? Yes___ No___ If yes, in what state were you claimed by your parent(s)?
-

6. Sources of support during the preceding 12 months in estimated percentage of total support:

Source	Percentage
Parents	
Spouse	
Loans	
Employment during school term	
Savings	
Summer employment	
Trust Funds	
Relatives	
Gifts	
Student financial aid	
Other (specify)	

7. If supported by trust fund, state to which the trust fund pays income taxes:_____

8. a. State/Federal education guaranteed loans now held or have been applied for:

b. Guaranteed through which state:_____

c. Date obtained/requested: _____

d. Dates(s) renewed: _____

MISCELLANEOUS DATA

1. Mississippi professional and occupational licenses held:

Professional/Occupational	Type	Date Issued

2. a. Do you regularly operate a motor vehicle? Yes ____ No ____

- b. This vehicle is registered to _____ in the state of _____
(list all names on title)

If not Mississippi, date of registration _____

If vehicle is registered in Mississippi, date of **first** registration: (Attach a copy of **most recent** vehicle registration or Mississippi title)

3. a. Date most recent valid driver's license obtained: (Attach copy) _____
- b. If Mississippi license, number of consecutive years valid Mississippi driver's license held: _____
- c. If holding motor vehicle driver's license in another state, name state and give expiration date _____ and date obtained _____.

4. Location of all checking/savings accounts and other banking business such as loans: (Attach documentation to include your name and address & bank name and address)

Name of bank(s)

City/State

5. Date of last voter registration: (attach copy of voter registration card)

month/day/year county/state

PARENTAL/FAMILY INFORMATION

1. Name and address of Parents:

2. If parents are/were ever legal residents of Mississippi, give address and dates of residence:

From	To	Street Address	City/State

3. If applicable, name and address of court-appointed legal guardian:

- a. Dates of Mississippi residence for legal guardian: _____
- b. Date of guardianship appointment: _____
- c. Name of court: _____
(Attach a copy of the court order)

DATA ON NON-U.S. CITIZENS

1. Country of citizenship _____
2. Visa Type: _____
3. Date received resident alien card allowing permanent residence in the U.S.: _____
(Attach a copy of this resident alien card)

(SIGNATURE LEGAL ONLY IF DONE IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY)

* _____
Signature of Petitioner

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME, IN MY PRESENCE, THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20 ____.

Notary Public

*THE PETITIONER SHOULD NOTE BEFORE SIGNING THAT ANY WILLFULLY FALSE STATEMENTS MADE HEREIN MAY RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION INCLUDING POSSIBLE DISMISSAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY AND/OR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION PURSUANT TO MISSISSIPPI CODE§ 37-103-27.

DELIVER COMPLETED PETITION TO:

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
221 GARNER HALL

OR BY MAIL TO:

ASHLEY REED
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
P.O. BOX 5268
MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS 39762

DATE PETITION GIVEN TO STUDENT:
