

Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine

2024-2025

Pennsylvania Residency Appeal

This completed form must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office with your Financial Aid Application to be considered eligible for the in-state tuition rate for the MD Program.

I am a permanent resident of Pennsylvania (Please check your status below.)

- I am an independent person and have maintained a legal residence in Pennsylvania for at least 12 months and this residence was not primarily for attending school.
- I live with my parent or legal guardian who has maintained a permanent residence in Pennsylvania for at least 12 months. My only absence may have been to attend school in another state.
- I am married to a person who has maintained legal residence in Pennsylvania for at least 12 months. I have now established legal residence and intend to make Pennsylvania my permanent home.
- I am a member of the military or a government employee who was a resident of Pennsylvania prior to entering government service and I have continually maintained Pennsylvania as my domicile. Or I am a military person with a with an active-duty station in Pennsylvania and I currently reside in the state

I. Personal Information

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Permanent Legal Address: _____

(Street, City, State and Zip)

II. Provided with this form is documentation supporting my claim of a Permanent Pennsylvania Resident.

Acceptable documentation includes copies of one of the following : PA Voter Registration, PA Income Tax Return, Registration of a motor vehicle in PA, a valid PA Driver's License, Deed to a permanent residence in PA, Marriage License to a person already domiciled in PA for other than educational purposes, or a personal statement signed by a parent stating that you have lived in his/her permanent residence in PA for at least 12 months and this statement must be witnessed by an unrelated third party (address and phone number of third party is required). **The decision is made based on a review of all submitted and requested documents, not just submission of one of the documents mentioned above.**

III. I hereby affirm that the information provided is correct and that I believe that I do meet the definition of a student eligible for the in-state tuition that appears on the reverse side. A false claim to PA Residency will subject me to institutional disciplinary action.

Signature

Date

This form along with supporting documentation should be submitted to the Director of Financial Aid who will provide the appeal information to the Vice President of Finance at Gesinger.

State Residency Requirements for In-State Tuition

A student shall be classified as a Pennsylvania resident for tuition purposes if that student has a Pennsylvania domicile and that student's presence in Pennsylvania is not primarily for educational purposes. Domicile is a person's existing and intended fixed, permanent, and principal place of residence. A student whose presence in the State is primarily for educational purposes shall be presumed to be a non-Pennsylvania resident for the in-state tuition rate. A student must be a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident to be classified as a Pennsylvania resident for tuition purposes.

The following are considerations that may be used by the College in determining whether a student is a resident for tuition purposes:

1. A student who has resided in the State for other than educational purposes for at least a period of 12 months immediately preceding his/her initial enrollment at Geisinger College of Health Sciences is presumed to have a Pennsylvania domicile. This would include students who lived continuously in their parents' Pennsylvania domicile during their education prior to attending GCSOM, and expect to continue living with their parents, except for absence while attending a college or university away from their parent's home.
2. A student who has not resided continually in Pennsylvania for a period of 12 months immediately preceding his/her initial enrollment at Gesinger is presumed to have a non-Pennsylvania domicile.
3. A United States government employee or member of the armed forces who was a resident of Pennsylvania immediately preceding his/her entry into government service and who has continuously maintained Pennsylvania as his/her domicile will be presumed to have a Pennsylvania domicile. Military personnel and their dependents who are assigned to an active-duty station in Pennsylvania and who reside in Pennsylvania shall be charged in-state tuition rates.
4. A student receiving a scholarship, guaranteed loan, grant, or other form of financial assistance dependent upon residence in a state other than Pennsylvania is not a Pennsylvania resident for tuition purposes.

Establishment of Pennsylvania domicile with less than twelve months' presence prior to the date of attendance at Gesinger must be supported by evidence of positive and unequivocal action that indicates the student intends to make his/her permanent residence in Pennsylvania. In determining domicile, the College may consider such factors as the ownership or lease of a permanently occupied home in the State, the filing Pennsylvania of income tax returns, the registration of a motor vehicle in Pennsylvania, possessing a valid Pennsylvania driver's license, Pennsylvania voter registration, and marriage to a person already domiciled in Pennsylvania for other than educational purposes.

A student who is classified as a resident because he/she lives with his/her parents and whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) move outside of the state may remain a Pennsylvania resident for tuition purposes if he/she continues to maintain a separate domicile within the state.

Living with a relative in the State does not qualify the student for residency, as the student has not established a permanent, independent domicile in the State. The same applies to living with family friends who are residents of the State.

Any student found to have made a false or misleading statement concerning domicile shall be subject to institutional disciplinary action and will be charged the nonresident fees for each academic term attended.

Appeals of Residency Determination

A student may challenge his/her residence classification by filing a written petition with Director of Finance Partnering who shall consider such petition and render a timely decision that shall constitute an exhaustion of administrative remedies.

Any reclassification resulting from a student's challenge or appeal shall be effective at the beginning of the semester or session during which the challenge or appeal was filed or at the beginning of the following semester or session.