

# Residency-Glossary

The following words and terms, when used in reference to residency, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

**Census date:** The date in an academic term for which an institution is required to certify a person's enrollment in the institution for the purposes of determining formula funding for the institution (12th class day).

**Dependent:** A person who: (A) is less than 18 years of age and has not been emancipated by marriage or court order; or (B) is eligible to be claimed as a dependent of a parent for purposes of determining the parent's income tax liability under the IRS Code of 1986.

**Domicile:** A person's principal, permanent residence to which the person intends to return after any temporary absence.

**Gainful Employment:** Activities intended to provide an income to a person or allow a person to avoid the expense of paying another person to perform the tasks (as in child care or the maintenance of a home). A person who is self-employed, employed as a homemaker, or who is living off his/her earnings may be considered gainfully employed for tuition purposes, as may a person whose primary support is public assistance. Gainful employment does not include work-study and other such student employment.

**Independent Student:** A student 18 years of age or older or an emancipated minor who is not claimed by a parent or legal guardian as a dependent for federal income tax purposes during the tax year.

**International Student:** Individuals from other countries than the United States who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents of this country.

**Legal guardian:** A person who is appointed guardian under the Texas Probate Code, Chapter 693, or a temporary or successor guardian.

**Maintain a residence:** To physically reside in a location. The maintenance of a residence is not interrupted by a temporary absence from the state.

**Parent:** A natural or adoptive parent, managing or possessory conservator, or court appointed legal guardian of a person. The term does not include a step-parent.

**Property Ownership:** Owning a house or condominium in Texas for which one has a Warranty Deed. Owning a time-share, renting a residence or owning a cemetery plot **does not** constitute property ownership.

**Temporary absence:** Absence from the State of Texas with the intention to return, generally for a period of less than five years.