

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL APPLICANTS:
VERIFICATION OF LAWFUL PRESENCE
&
GEORGIA RESIDENCY

As you complete your admission or re-admission file at Augusta Technical College, we need to share some important information with you. In accordance with Georgia HB 87 and Technical College System of Georgia policy, **all applicants for admission or readmission for Spring Semester 2012 and beyond** who seek to be classified as **in-state for tuition purposes**, are required to provide **proof of lawful presence in the United States and proof of residency in the State of Georgia.**

Does this Requirement Apply to Me?

Yes. This requirement applies to any student who wishes to enroll and to be considered for in-state tuition. To be considered for in-state tuition, a student must be a legal resident of Georgia for 12 consecutive months prior to the first day of the term and must present provide proof of lawful presence in the United States and proof of Georgia residency.

How Do I Prove Legal Presence in the U.S.?

The following is a partial list of documents that serve as proof of lawful presence in the United States. Further documentation **may** be required before you are eligible for consideration for in-state tuition:

- A current Driver's License issued by the State of Georgia after January 1, 2008.
- A current ID issued by the State of Georgia after January 1, 2008.
- An approved completed FAFSA for the current financial aid year.
- A current Driver's License or ID issued by a state that verifies immigration status and only issues to persons lawfully present in the United States. (See list of compliant states: http://law.ga.gov/vgn/images/portal/cit_1210/50/35/173461453Lists_of_states_that_verify_immigration_status_7_26_11.pdf)
- A certified U.S. Birth Certificate showing the student was born in the U.S. or a U.S. territory. A photocopy is not acceptable.
- A current, valid Permanent Resident Card (USCIS form 1-151 or 1-551).
- A U.S. Certificate of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (DS-1350) or a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (FS-240).
- A current U.S. Passport.
- A U.S. Certificate of Citizenship (USCIS form N-560 or N-561).
- A U.S. Certificate of Naturalization (USCIS form N-550 or N-570).

Any student who cannot be verified as lawfully present in the United States is not eligible to be considered for in-state tuition, regardless of how long he or she has lived in Georgia. In addition to being lawfully present in the United States, **students must meet the in-state tuition requirements as outlined in TCSG Board Policy and Procedure V.B.3 to be classified as in-state.** Students that are initially classified as out-of-state, and successfully petition to have their residency changed to in-state also have to meet the verification requirement.

How Do I Prove Georgia Residency?

Some documents above (such as a Georgia Driver's license or state ID card issued at least 12 months prior to enrollment) prove legal presence in the U.S. **and** Georgia residency. In other cases, additional documentation may be required to prove Georgia residency, such as:

- **Copy of lease agreement or utility bill** (gas, electric, water) showing you have resided at a Georgia address for **12 months** (**Note: Cell phone bills are not acceptable documentation**);
- **Georgia income tax return** from previous year (from student if independent, from parent(s) if dependent); or

- **Georgia voter registration** card showing registration 12 months prior to enrollment.
- **Georgia automobile registration** (12 month requirement)
- **Notarized letter on company letterhead indicating lease status** (12 month requirement)
- **Proof of ownership of primary residence in Georgia** (12 month requirement)

What Do I Need to Do?

If you have one of the items listed above (**except your birth certificate**), please provide it to the College at least 30 days in advance of your registration date. You may:

- **Mail a copy with your application** (See mailing address on page 2 of application),
- **Present it in person** to the Admissions Office (1300 Building or at your Augusta Tech location),
- **Fax a copy to the Admissions Office** to 706-771-4034, or
- **Scan it, and if readable, send it as an attachment** to admission@augustatech.edu.
- **Please note:** We cannot accept copies of the U.S. birth certificate; instead, original certified U.S. birth certificates must be mailed or presented directly to the Admissions Office.

What If I Do Not Have Documents Listed Above?

Applicants who do not present proof of lawful presence in the United States will be charged at the foreign student tuition rate, which is four times the in-state tuition rate. Applicants who are **not** United States citizens and **not** permanent residents and seek to petition for in-state tuition must provide one or more of the following to the Director of Admissions for consideration:

- Residency petition form (available in Admissions Office);
- A current copy of your visa and I-94;
- If you have a current Employment Authorization Card please include a copy of it with your documents.

What If I Live in a Border County Eligible for Reciprocity of Georgia Tuition?

Legal residents in a bordering South Carolina county eligible for in-state tuition, including legal residents of Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Edgefield, and McCormick Counties, must provide proof of residency in those counties, such as a state-issued ID or driver's license.

What If I'm Active Military (Service member, Spouse, or Dependent)?

If you are an active military service member/spouse/dependent, seeking in-state tuition, you may present your military ID and a copy of military orders showing that you are stationed in Georgia, or provide documentation that your home of record is Georgia. Spouses/dependents may present their spouse/dependent ID and copy of spouse/parent orders.

What If I Move?

All applicants and students are responsible for submitting updated address information to the Office of Student Records by completing and turning in a change of address form, available at http://www.augustatech.edu/student_records.html.

Questions?



Augusta Campus – Admissions: 706-771-4028, 706-771-4029, 706-771-4150
admission@augustatech.edu
 1300 Building

Columbia County Center – Student Services: 706-651-7368

Thomson/McDuffie Campus – Student Services: 706-595-0166

Waynesboro/Burke Campus – Student Services: 706-437-6801