

# University System of Georgia Out-of-Country Tuition Guidelines

## Effective Fall 2024

### In-State

Students who are in a status that currently allows an in-state tuition classification will continue to be eligible for that classification. U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, refugees, asylees, and other eligible noncitizens as defined by federal Title IV regulations who are able to establish sufficient domicile/residence in Georgia, as provided for in Georgia law (O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-66).

This status is established by [Board of Regents Policy Manual | 4.3 Student Residency | University System of Georgia \(usg.edu\)](#)

### Out-of-State

Students who are NOT classified as in-state but who can document that they meet the following criteria are to be classified as out-of-state.

1. U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, refugees, asylees, and other eligible noncitizens as defined by federal Title IV regulations who are not able to establish sufficient domicile/residence in Georgia, and
2. others who do not satisfy any of the criteria above but who have graduated from a high school in the United States.

### Out-of-Country

All students who do not meet in-state or out-of-state criteria will by default be classified as out-of-country.

Each institution should establish a process by which students who are classified as out-of-country can present evidence that they meet the criteria for in-state or out-of-state status and can apply for reclassification. Evaluation of such evidence may be performed by campus officials; status confirmation by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is not required.

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### Waivers

Existing policy and procedures that allow and govern out-of-state tuition waivers will be extended to include out-of-country waivers. Presidential Waivers may be granted to students classified as out-of-country with the policies and procedures that govern the number of waivers remaining in effect.

Effectively, the granting of an out-of-country waiver will count as granting an out-of-state waiver for the purposes of counting the number of waivers granted.

### Fixed Rate Programs

The Board of Regents has approved a number of fixed rate tuition programs that provide the same tuition rates for in-state and out-of-state students. These programs will continue to be fixed rate for all students, including those students classified as out-of-country.

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### **Clarifying Questions and Answers:**

**Q.1.** If a student indicates U.S. citizenship on their admission application, are they required to submit citizenship documentation (U.S. birth certificate, U.S. passport, etc.) to qualify for the out-of-state classification based on their U.S. citizenship?

**A.** No, students indicating U.S. citizenship on their admission application may be classified as out-of-state without the submission of citizenship documentation.

**Q.2.** If a student indicates they are a lawful permanent resident, refugee, asylee, or other eligible noncitizen as defined by the federal Title IV regulations, are they required to submit USCIS (US Citizenship and Immigration Services) documentation (I-94, I-551, I-571, etc.) to qualify for an out-of-state classification based on their status as an eligible noncitizen?

**A.** Yes, any student indicating they are a lawful permanent resident, refugee, asylee, or other eligible noncitizen as defined by the federal Title IV regulations must submit USCIS documentation as evidence of their eligible status to qualify for the out-of-state classification based on their citizenship status.

**Q.3.** Are institutions required to utilize the USCIS SAVE system to verify the document(s) submitted by an eligible noncitizen prior to granting them an out-of-state classification? Can the SAVE system be used?

**A.** Lawful presence verification is not a requirement for an out-of-state classification so verification using SAVE is not necessary. Institutions should closely review the documents submitted by an eligible noncitizen to ensure

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they provide what is needed to confirm their eligibility. If there is uncertainty about a student's status, SAVE may be used to confirm their eligible status.

**Q.4.** If a student indicates they have graduated from a U.S. high school, are they required to submit their transcript to qualify for an out-of-state classification based on graduating from a U.S. high school?

**A.** No, students indicating they graduated from a U.S. high school on their admission application may be classified as out-of-state without the submission of their high school transcript.

**Q.5.** Is a student who earned a High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma in the U.S. considered a U.S. high school graduate for the purpose of determining eligibility for an out-of-state classification? What about students who graduated from a home school program in the U.S.?

**A.** Yes, a student earning their HSE in the U.S. or graduating from a home school program in the U.S. may be considered a graduate of a U.S. high school for the purpose of determining eligibility for an out-of-state classification.

**Q.6.** Can dual enrollment students currently attending a U.S. high school qualify for the out-of-state classification based on their U.S. high school attendance or will they need to meet the citizenship requirement?

**A.** A dual enrollment student attending a U.S. high school may be considered in the same manner as a U.S. high school graduate in determining their eligibility for an out-of-state classification.