



# SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENCY

## 4 ITEMS OF INTENT REQUIRED

The South Carolina General Assembly approved updates to the Residency Regulations effective **May 18, 2026**. The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) developed this resource to help institutions better understand the regulatory changes, align with state law, and support consistent residency determinations for students across South Carolina.



Applicants must show a minimum of **FOUR (4)** items from the list below to demonstrate intent to become a South Carolina resident.

1



### SOUTH CAROLINA DRIVER'S LICENSE

Obtain a South Carolina driver's license within **45 days** of establishing residency.

2



### VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Register at least **one (1)** vehicle in South Carolina within 45 days of establishing residency.

3



### DOMICILE & PERMANENT HOME

Establish a domicile and maintain a permanent home in South Carolina. (e.g., own or rent)

4



### FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE

Be financially independent for South Carolina income tax purposes (when applicable).



#### IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

- The items above are a **minimum requirement**. Institutions may consider additional evidence.
- All items must show **intent** to make South Carolina your permanent home.



This graphic is a tool to help you understand the residency process. **It is not all-inclusive and does not guarantee residency status.**



✓ Colleges and Universities determine a student's residency based on the documentation students and families provide with their application.

✓ Each institution's residency determination process will include an **Appeal** option for students.

✓ CHE and their staff **do not** determine students' residency status.

✓ This graphic is a tool to help you understand the process and in **no way** can be used to determine a student's residency status.