



Mississippi State UNIVERSITY

College of Veterinary Medicine

Guidelines for Determination of Residency For the Purpose of Admission and Assessment of Tuition and Fees

Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine *Effective fall 2006 semester*

The tuition for Mississippi residents at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine (MSU-CVM) is based on the cost of developing, enhancing, and delivering the veterinary medical curriculum, less financial support received from the State of Mississippi.

The tuition for out-of-state students, who come to Mississippi for the purpose of earning a veterinary medical degree, is based on the cost of developing, enhancing, and delivering the veterinary medical curriculum.

All persons applying to the MSU-CVM shall be classified as an in-state or out-of-state student for the purposes of administering the admission process, tuition charges and other fees. When applying for admission to MSU-CVM, it is the applicant's responsibility to state his or her correct state of residency on the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) application. If an applicant has a question regarding his or her residency classification, the applicant should contact the Student Affairs Coordinator in the MSU-CVM Office of Student Affairs at least one month prior to submitting his or her application.

An applicant who is classified by the MSU-CVM as an out-of-state applicant may appeal the classification to the Student Affairs Coordinator, Office of Student Affairs, MSU-CVM. The applicant must submit the appeal in writing and must submit all documentation desired for consideration simultaneously with the written appeal using documentation as described below.

All requirements for in-state tuition status must be met no later than the date upon which the applicant matriculates into MSU-CVM.

Each successful applicant must enter a contract with the MSU-CVM prior to final acceptance for admission in which the applicant agrees and obligates himself/herself to pay the tuition, fees and expenses applicable to the applicant's in-state or out-of-state status, as determined by the MSU-CVM, that exists on the date the applicant will matriculate; further, the applicant must agree and obligate himself/herself in the contract to continue to pay the tuition, fees and expenses during the applicant's entire MSU-CVM DVM educational experience that are applicable to that same initial status determination, thereby waiving any right to petition for a change in residency status.

An admitted applicant's status will not change for his or her entire MSU-CVM veterinary medical educational period.

The above referenced in-state and out-of-state status determination to be used in the contract will be made using the following provisions.

I. General Provisions

A. Burden of Proof:

1. The applicant retains the burden of proof at all times to convince the MSU-CVM officials of the applicant's status.
2. An applicant must convince the MSU-CVM officials that he or she is eligible for in-state tuition, fees and expenses by providing documentation of activities and circumstances to the Student Affairs Coordinator, Office of Student Affairs, MSU-CVM. An applicant whose presence in the state is based on activities or circumstances that are indeterminate or temporary, such as (but not limited to) educational pursuits, will be presumed not to be eligible for in-state tuition, fees and expenses. In order to rebut this presumption, the burden of proof is on the applicant to demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that he/she is eligible for in-state classification.

B. Dependents:

1. An applicant is presumed to be dependent of his/her parents if the applicant has:
 - a. Been involved primarily in educational pursuits, or
 - b. Not been entirely financially self-supporting through employment.
2. The residence of a dependent applicant is presumed to be the same as that of the applicant's natural parents. If only one natural parent is a resident of Mississippi, the applicant will be presumed to be a Mississippi resident regardless of whether that parent is the applicant's custodial parent.
3. The residence of a dependent applicant's legal guardian will be presumed to have the same evidentiary effect as that of a dependent applicant's natural parent only when (a) the applicant is the dependent of the legal guardian, and (b) such guardianship has been established due to the complete incapacity or death of the applicant's natural parent(s). A parent's inability to provide funds necessary to support a MSU-CVM education shall not qualify as complete incapacity.

C. One year of continuous presence in this state is never the only criterion used for determining in-state classification and, in itself, will not qualify an applicant for in-state status. Nor will an applicant's failure to have continuously resided in Mississippi for one year automatically prevent the applicant from obtaining in-state status.

II. Additional Provisions

A. The following circumstances and activities, though not conclusive, may lend support to a claim to eligibility for in-state classification. This is not an exhaustive list.

1. In the case of a dependent applicant, at least one parent residing in Mississippi, as demonstrated by the parent's permanent employment, establishment of a household and severance of out-of-state ties that would otherwise indicate non-residency.
2. Applicant employed in Mississippi in a full-time permanent job, provided that the applicant's employment is the primary purpose for the applicant's presence in Mississippi.
3. Applicant's spouse employed in Mississippi in a full-time, permanent job provided that the purpose for the spouse's employment in Mississippi initially was and remains the primary purpose for the spouse's and the applicant's presence in Mississippi.

B. The following circumstances and activities are temporary or indeterminate and, in and of themselves, do not demonstrate residency in Mississippi:

1. Enrollment in a Mississippi high school, community college or university, regardless of the residency status granted by the educational institutions.
2. Employment in Mississippi that is temporary or short-term.
3. Military assignment in Mississippi.
4. Employment in Mississippi in a position normally held by a student.
5. Ownership of property in Mississippi.
6. Presence of relatives (other than parent for a dependent) in Mississippi
7. Possession of a Mississippi driver's license or voter's registration

8. Payment of Mississippi income or property taxes
9. The applicant's statement of intent to be a resident of Mississippi
- C. An applicant will be presumed eligible for in-state classification in the following circumstances:
 1. If an applicant, or the parent of a dependent applicant, is an active member of the regular armed forces who maintains Mississippi as his/her official home of record, is registered to vote in Mississippi, and files a Mississippi income tax return as a resident.
 2. If an applicant, or the parent of a dependent applicant, is a resident of Mississippi but has been temporarily transferred outside Mississippi by his/her employer (but has not become a resident outside of Mississippi).
 3. If an applicant, or the parent of a dependent applicant, is a missionary funded by a Mississippi church, and the applicant or parent resided in Mississippi at the time he/she went on the mission.
 4. An applicant who physically has been residing in Mississippi for 12 consecutive months without enrolling in any academic courses at any two-year or four-year degree granting institution and is employed fulltime.
- D. Miscellaneous:
 1. The in-state status of a prospective applicant who is a Mississippi resident will not be affected by that applicant's full-time attendance, prior to enrolling at MSU, at a non-Mississippi college or university.
 2. If the family of a dependent, who would otherwise qualify the applicant for in-state status, moves out of Mississippi during the time he/she is an applicant, the applicant's in-state classification will be maintained as long as he/she continues to be enrolled on a regular school year basis in a college or university in Mississippi.
 3. The residency status of any person, other than a parent, who may furnish funds to an applicant for payment of MSU-CVM tuition, fees or expenses, shall not have any presumptive effect on the classification of that applicant.