



What is the North Carolina Residency Determination Service (RDS)?

RDS is new to North Carolina and provides residency determinations in accordance with North Carolina residency laws and applicable federal statutes for the purposes of in-state tuition and state financial aid.

- RDS provides you a convenient and intuitive process to claim and document NC residency.
- RDS allows you to use one residency determination for admissions applications to multiple NC colleges and universities and to demonstrate residency eligibility for state grant purposes.

What proves my residency in North Carolina to make me eligible for a state grant?

To prove North Carolina residency and be eligible for a state grant; you must demonstrate through RDS that:

- You established your legal residence (domicile) in North Carolina
- You maintained that domicile for at least twelve (12) consecutive months before claiming residency on RDS
- You have a residentiary presence in the state (you have completed acts typically associated with being a resident)
- You intend to make North Carolina your permanent home indefinitely (rather than being in North Carolina solely to attend college)

What should I expect when using RDS?

For many students, the residency classification process is simple. If you were born in North Carolina and have lived in the State all your life, you will probably be one of many students who are classified as North Carolina residents. If you now live in, recently lived in, or still have strong ties to another state, RDS may require more in-depth information or documentation. Any information you provide will be validated against federal and North Carolina state agency databases.

- You must complete the RDS online interview (created to simplify your request and enhance the consistency and accuracy of residency determination).
- You must provide identification information (have your information easily available to quickly complete the RDS interview):
 - ✓ Social Security Number (SSN) for you, your parent(s) or spouse (same as the FAFSA)
 - ✓ Without an SSN, RDS cannot validate your information with federal and state agencies and RDS must classify you as a non-resident (you will be ineligible for any state grant)

How do I use RDS?

1. You can access RDS in two ways:
 - ✓ On the RDS homepage of www.ncresidency.org select "Complete Residency Determination"
 - ✓ From CFNC.org (you must be logged in) select the "Residency" button in the CFNC Applications Hub
2. Use your CFNC login to access RDS; if you do not have a CFNC login, create a new account at ncresidency.org and login. This account login will be the same as a CFNC login. There is no separate login for RDS.
3. Start the RDS Interview (select "Complete Residency Determination" button):
 - ✓ Answer the questions
 - ✓ You may start, stop, and come back to the online interview as needed
 - ✓ You have 25 days after starting to finish the interview; incomplete interviews are canceled and you must start again
4. Additional directions, information and next steps are on the RDS website at <https://www.ncresidency.org>