

Aliens Who Are Residents of Texas

Texas law states that an individual can be considered a resident of Texas if the individual resided with a parent, guardian, or conservator at least part of the time while he or she attended a public or private high school in this state, and:

1. Graduated from a public or private high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma in this state;
2. Resided in this state for at least three years as of the date the person graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma;
3. Registers as an entering student in an institution of higher education not earlier than the 2001 Fall Semester; and
4. Provides to the institution an affidavit that the individual will file an application to become a permanent resident at the earliest opportunity the individual is eligible to do so.

Documents for Determining Residency

The following documents have been found acceptable for determining Texas residency by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

1. Texas high school transcript
2. Texas college or university transcript
3. employer statement of date of employment
4. permanent driver's license at least one year old
5. Texas voter registration
6. lease agreement which includes student's name and periods covered
7. property tax payments
8. canceled checks
9. utility bills

Academic Fresh Start

Senate Bill 1321 (Barrientos) entitles residents of this state to seek admission to public institutions of higher education without consideration of courses undertaken ten or more years prior to enrollment. This bill has been called the "Right to an Academic Fresh Start." This bill gives students the option of electing to have coursework, taken ten or more years prior to the starting date of the semester in which the applicant seeks to enroll, either counted as usual or ignored for admission purposes. Applicants who elect to apply for admission under this law and who are admitted as students may not receive any course credit for courses undertaken ten or more years prior to enrollment.

Credit for Military Experience

The college accepts military credit through the ACE Guide. There is no limit placed on the number of credits accepted. However, students who plan to graduate with an A.A., A.S., A.A.T., A.A.S. degrees and certificates must complete 25 percent of the required semester hours at Southwest Texas Junior College.

Credit for Experiential Learning

Other than credit for military experience, the college does not accept any other form of experiential credit.