
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RESIDENT TUITION FEE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that facilitating
2 postsecondary education and training for all interested high
3 school graduates is a matter of statewide concern.
4 Postsecondary options assist graduates by preparing them for
5 jobs and career pathways that typically pay higher wages, which
6 enables them to achieve their educational and career goals and
7 afford the State's high cost of living. Increased enrollment
8 and completion of postsecondary education and training will
9 increase the State's human capital.

10 The university of Hawaii amended its administrative rules
11 to streamline the enrollment process for all applicants for
12 admission into the university of Hawaii system; however, the
13 current statutory requirements regarding residency for tuition
14 purposes pose challenges for some local graduating high school
15 seniors or recent graduates. Specifically, some students
16 experiencing homelessness have difficulty providing evidence of
17 bona fide residency as required by statute, and students who



1 have complex family situations may be incorrectly considered
2 nonresidents. The legislature further finds that recognizing
3 local high school graduates as residents to qualify for resident
4 tuition fees would facilitate the enrollment of these students
5 at one of the university of Hawaii's campuses.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to simplify the
7 residency determination for the State's high school graduates to
8 enroll in postsecondary education and training at the university
9 of Hawaii by considering graduates of the State's high schools
10 to be residents for tuition purposes.

11 SECTION 2. Section 304A-402, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 "[+]§304A-402[+] **Residence for tuition purposes; basic**
14 **rule.** The board of regents shall adopt the necessary rules
15 defining residence for tuition purposes herein; provided that
16 the basic rule shall be that a student shall qualify for the
17 resident tuition fee only if the following criteria are met:

18 (1) The adult student, or in the case of a minor student,
19 the student's parents or guardians, has or have been a
20 bona fide resident of this State for at least twelve
21 consecutive months next preceding the student's first



1 day of officially scheduled instruction for any
2 semester or term in which the student is enrolling at
3 the particular college or campus; and

4 (2) The adult or minor student [~~has~~]:

5 (A) Has not been claimed as a dependent for tax
6 purposes for at least twelve months next
7 preceding the student's first day of officially
8 scheduled instruction for any semester or term in
9 which the student is enrolling at the particular
10 college or campus by the student's parents or
11 guardians who are nonresidents of the State;
12 provided that this provision shall not apply in
13 cases where the parent claiming the student as a
14 dependent is entitled to do so under a child
15 support order or agreement issued or entered into
16 in conjunction with a divorce proceeding or legal
17 separation agreement and the other parent and the
18 student meet the criteria set forth in
19 paragraph (1) [~~-~~]; or

20 (B) Graduated from a high school in the State within
21 four years preceding the student's first day of



1 officially scheduled instruction for any semester
2 or term in which the student is enrolling at the
3 particular college or campus and will enroll in
4 an undergraduate degree program."

5 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 31, 2050.



Report Title:

UH; Residence for Tuition Purposes

Description:

Requires the University of Hawaii to grant the resident tuition fee for enrollment at any University of Hawaii campus to individuals who have graduated from a Hawaii high school and are enrolling in an undergraduate degree program, under certain conditions. Effective 7/31/2050. (SD1)

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