

POLICY

Students who have indicated either an Ocean County address or other New Jersey county address on their application are entitled to in-county or out-of-county tuition rates. Ocean County College's in-state tuition policy is governed by New Jersey Administrative code 9A:5-1.1, which requires students to obtain permanent domicile within New Jersey 12 months prior to enrollment. In-County tuition will be granted to students who have established permanent domicile within Ocean County, 30 days prior to the term's census date. In-county or out-of-county tuition will be determined based upon information that students supply on their undergraduate application. Students must provide proof of permanent domicile if requested by Ocean County College.

Qualifications

- An in-county resident is a student who has established permanent domicile in Ocean County at least 30 days prior to the census date within the current term for which they have applied, or is a graduate of an Ocean County high school. A student may be asked to provide one or more of the following documents to demonstrate domicile: *
 - A New Jersey Driver's License/permit
 - NJ-DVM non-driver identification
 - A New Jersey Voter Registration Card
 - A copy of recent property tax statement
 - Update of Address form Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
 - A copy of Ocean County high school diploma.

*This request can be made as a result of audits of student applications and/or the receipt of a Student Information Change form to maintain data integrity of the student's record.

- An out-of-county resident is a student who has established permanent domicile in New Jersey, residing outside of Ocean County, at least 12 months prior to enrollment.
- An out-of-state resident is a student who has established a permanent domicile outside of New Jersey, but has established a permanent domicile within the United States.
- An out-of-country resident is a student who has entered the United States either under a student visa (F-1), or is currently taking classes within their permanent domicile country through OCC's E-Learning (distance learning) program.
 - Distance learners are students who are enrolled in fully online courses at Ocean County College who are studying within their home country.
 - Distance learner students are billed according to the address provided on the application.
 - Students seeking an I-20 from OCC in order to obtain an F1 Visa, should reference The International Student Packet & Instructions for further information. www.ocean.edu/admission_and_aid/international-students/
 - A resident alien is a foreign national living on an official basis in a country of which they are not a citizen.
 - Resident alien students are billed according to the address provided on the application.

- NJ Dreamers are students who self-identify as being eligible for the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application. NJ Dreamers can complete the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application if they are not a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen and meet the following criteria:
 - Attended a New Jersey high school for at least three (3) years and
 - Graduated from a New Jersey high school **or** received the equivalent of a high school diploma in New Jersey and
 - Are able to file an affidavit stating that they have filed an application to legalize their immigration status **or** will file an application as soon as they are eligible to do so.

NJ Dreamer Students are billed according to the address provided on the application.

- Dependent students are defined by New Jersey Administrative code 9A:9-2.6 to be presumed domiciled in the state in which their parent/or legal guardian(s) is domiciled. Students must provide proof of permanent domicile if requested by OCC. If requested, as per New Jersey Administrative code 9A:5-1.1, a student may be required to provide one or more of the following documents to demonstrate domicile:
 - A copy of recent property tax statement from their primary domicile or an in-county summer home.
 - A copy of the student's New Jersey income tax return or evidence of withholding of New Jersey income tax from prior year; if a dependent, copies of their parent/legal guardian(s) income tax return or evidence of withholding of income tax from prior year
- Active military members and their dependents will be eligible for in-county rates. Submission of documentation is required. Documentation may include but not limited to: DD-214, Active Duty, or Commander's Certificate to obtain in-county rates.
- An early college student is a student enrolled at any High School, home school, out-of-county high school, or an out-of-state high school who is taking OCC classes while a high school student.
 - Students can enroll following their 8th grade year beginning the summer prior to the 9th grade year.
 - Early College rates are not determined by residency and are set in Policy 5300.

Chargeback

For Ocean County Residents attending an out-of-county college, the submission of a Chargeback Assistance Form may be reviewed as per Policy #5330.

Tuition

Students will be charged tuition and fees according to their residency status, as established in Policy #5300.

All requests for residency status updates must be submitted prior to the term's census date for which the changed status is sought. All forms submitted after the census date, will not be processed until the following semester.

Students who have indicated they were charged incorrectly for a prior term, may submit a tuition refund appeal: Refund Policy #5144.

ADOPTED: January 29, 2026

PROCEDURE

1. Determination in residency

At the time an individual applies to OCC, the Registration & Records department will determine the applicant's residency status for tuition assessment. As per the New Jersey Administrative Code 9A:5-1.3(a), an institution shall decide each case of student domicile as defined at 9A:5-1.1(a), on the basis of evidence submitted by the individual.

2. Request for a change in residency

Requests for a change in residency status will be accepted no later than the census date in the semester for which the student is registered for. To find the census dates for any term, reference the Registration and Academic Calendars on OCC's website. Students must submit the required documents as per the New Jersey Administrative Code 9A:5-1.1 in accordance with the time limit specified by Ocean County College. In addition, students must submit the Student Information Change form as presented by the Registration & Records department www.ocean.edu/programs-and-courses/registration-forms.

3. Student's Responsibilities

Students are responsible for providing required documents when requested so a residency determination may be made. Students who are classified as a resident, but who become a non-resident at any time by a change of legal residence, are required to notify the Registration & Records department immediately.

ADOPTED: January 29, 2026