I. PURPOSE
The State of Alabama restricts resident tuition to persons who have been residing in Alabama for any purpose other than to obtain a post-secondary education, and who are legal residents of the Alabama because they able to demonstrate sufficient contacts with the State of Alabama that indicate intent to remain in this state. Resident tuition status is determined by the University, in consideration of Alabama law.

II. DEFINITIONS
1. “Minor” means an individual who, because of age, lacks the capacity to enter into a contract under Alabama law. This means a single individual under the age of 19 and a married individual under the age of 18, but excludes an individual whose disabilities of non-age have been removed by a court of competent jurisdiction for a reason other than establishing a legal residence in Alabama.
2. “Supporting Person” means either or both of the parents of the student, if the parents are living together, or if the parents are divorced or living separately, then either the parent having legal custody or, if different, the parent who claims the student as a dependant for income tax purposes. If both parents are deceased or if neither has legal custody, supporting person shall mean, in the following order: the legal custodian of the student, and if none, the guardian and, if none, the conservator.
3. “Resident” means one whose residence is in the State of Alabama.
4. “Residence” means the single location at which a person resides with the intent of remaining in that location indefinitely as evidenced by more substantial connections with that place than with any other place.
III. GENERAL GUIDELINES
Prior to applying for reclassification for tuition purposes, please be aware of the following:
1. The guidelines for determining residency for tuition purposes are independent of other regulations used by state authorities to determine residency in the State of Alabama. Proof of an Alabama driver's license, an Alabama car tag, and/or voter registration do not constitute a presumption of residency.
2. Attendance at the University or any post-secondary educational institution in the Stae of Alabama does not establish residency for tuition purposes.
3. The primary issue is the intent of the individual. If the individual is in Alabama primarily for the purpose of obtaining an education, that individual will generally be considered a non-resident for tuition purposes.
4. Documents to support the reclassification application must be dated, issued, or filed twelve (12) month before the first day of classes of the semester for which reclassification is sought.
5. To be considered for in-state tuition, students must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien.
6. Students who are 19 years of age or older must establish residency based on their personal legal status and circumstances and not that of their parent(s) or guardian.

IV. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS
A resident student is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien, who meets one of the following criteria:
   1. A full-time permanent employee of the University or is the legal dependent of such an employee.
   2. A verifiable full-time employee within the state of Alabama or is the dependent of such an employee.
   3. A member or the legal dependent of a member of the United States military on full-time active duty stationed in Alabama under orders for duties other than attending school.
   4. An individual whose supporting person is a resident of the state of Alabama.

V. RECLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
A student may apply to reclassify his or her residence for tuition purposes. To be eligible to change residency status, a student must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien, prove twelve months of continuous residence in the state, for a purpose other than attending school and possess a current Alabama driver's license. Continuous residence may be proven by meeting a combination of three of the following reclassification requirements:

   1. Payment of Alabama state income taxes as a resident
2. Ownership of a residence or other real property in the state and payment of state ad valorem taxes on residence or property
3. Full-time employment in the state for at least one year prior to application for reclassification
4. Primary residence in the State of a spouse, parents or children
5. Voter registration and voting in the state at least one year prior to application for reclassification
6. Possession of current state or local licenses to do business or practice a profession in the state valid at least one year prior to application for reclassification
7. Ownership of personal property in the state, payment of state taxes on the property, and possession of state license plates
8. In-state address shown on selective service registration, driver's license, automobile title registration, hunting and fishing licenses, insurance policies, stock and bond registrations, last will and testament, annuities, or retirement plans for a continuous period of one year prior to application for reclassification.

VI. APPLICATION FOR RECLASSIFICATION
Students applying for reclassification as a resident for tuition purposes shall certify under penalty of perjury that a specific address or location within the State of Alabama is their residence, that they intend to remain there indefinitely, and that they meet at least three reclassification requirements showing a substantial connection with the State of Alabama. The burden of proof for reclassifying residency status rests with the student. The ultimate determination of that status shall be made by the university and its evaluation of supporting documentation. No single connection or combination of circumstances will automatically result in a finding of residency.

VII. APPEAL
The decision by the Office or Admissions or the Office of Graduate Studies concerning reclassification as a resident student may be appealed in writing by the student to the AAMU Residency Review Committee. The student must submit a written notice of appeal no later than ten (10) working days after the date of the adverse decision. The decision of the committee will be final.

AUTHORITY: Ala. Code §36-5-7; Ala. Code §36-33A-1