

United States Military Veteran/Indiana National Guard/United States Military Reserves Residence Classification Process

Based on Indiana Senate Enrolled Act 177 (2013)

United States military and Indiana National Guard honorably discharged veterans and current Indiana National Guard members (each referred to herein as a “qualified veteran”) are eligible for resident tuition purpose at Purdue University based on Indiana Senate Enrolled Act 177, effective July 1, 2013, and now codified at IC 21-14-12.2-1 *et seq.* (hereinafter referred to as SEA 177).

Purdue’s General Approach to SEA 177 Implementation

- A qualified veteran is an individual who:
 - served in the United States armed forces or the Indiana National Guard, and received an honorable discharge; or
 - is currently serving in the Indiana National Guard, or
 - is currently serving as a reservist in a branch of the United States military, provided that (a) such individual’s reserve unit or duty station is located in Indiana and (b) such individual previously served on active duty (as defined in IC 21-14-1-2.3) in the armed forces of the United States for a period of not less than two calendar years prior to enrolling at Purdue. (For purposes of this internal guidance relative to reservists, the term “active duty” does not include any period during which an individual:
 - was assigned full time by the armed forces of the United States to a civilian institution for a course of education which was substantially the same as established courses offered to civilians;
 - served in the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps at a civilian institution while pursuing a course of education at such institution which was otherwise substantially the same as established courses offered to civilians;
 - served as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, or
 - served under the provisions of 10 U.S.C. section [12103\(d\)](#) pursuant to an enlistment in the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard or as a Reserve for service in the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, or Coast Guard Reserve, unless at some time subsequent to the completion of the “initial period of active duty for training” described in that section, such individual served on active duty (as defined in IC 21-14-1-2.3) in the armed forces of the United States for a period of not less than two calendar years prior to enrolling at Purdue (not including any service as a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies or any service in the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps at Purdue or another institution).)
- To be eligible to pay resident tuition, a qualified veteran must be:
 - enrolled as a degree-seeking **undergraduate** student at a state educational institution no later than 12 months following the date of honorable discharge or separation from the United States military or Indiana National Guard; or
 - a current member of the Indiana National Guard or United States Military Reserves based in Indiana.
- A qualified veteran is eligible for resident tuition regardless of whether he/she

- resided in Indiana long enough to establish residency under Purdue University's residence classification policy; or
- came to Indiana for the primary purpose of attending a state educational institution.

Purdue's Application of Various SEA 177 Provisions

- For purposes of the term "enroll" as it is used in IC 21-14-12.2-3, Purdue's position is that a qualified veteran seeking eligibility to pay resident tuition must *apply* to an Indiana public higher education institution within 12 months of the date of discharge or separation *with the intention* to enroll if accepted. The Indiana Supreme Court has stated that a student, in order to be considered "enrolled" in an educational institution, must be accepted to the institution, be officially registered as a student at the institution, or in good faith be attending or intending to attend the institution in the foreseeable future. (Hirsch v. Oliver, 970 N.E.2d 651, 659 (Ind. 2012)). Purdue's position is that "good faith" is demonstrated by paying the required deposit to reserve one's spot in the class, or by taking affirmative steps to claim a waiver of the deposit requirement if the student is eligible for such a waiver.
- The "12-month" period begins on the date of discharge or separation.
- Currently enrolled Purdue University undergraduate students who are qualified veterans honorably discharged prior to July 1, 2013, and who were originally enrolled within 12 months of discharge or separation are eligible to pay resident tuition under SEA 177 for semesters beginning after July 1, 2013.
- A qualified veteran student who enrolled within 12 months after separation, but prior to July 1, 2013, as an undergraduate student at an Indiana public higher education institution and who transfers to Purdue University without a break in enrollment is eligible for the qualified veteran resident status provided the student did not have a break in enrollment between institutions and remained enrolled at Purdue as an undergraduate student after July 1, 2013.
- A qualified veteran student who enrolled in a **non-public** institution within 12 months of discharge or separation and then transfers to Purdue University **is not** eligible for resident tuition under SEA 177 unless the enrollment at Purdue or another Indiana state institution is within the initial 12 months following discharge or separation.
- A qualified veteran student who enrolled in higher education outside of Indiana, and then transfers to Purdue University within the initial 12 months following discharge or separation **is** eligible for resident tuition.
- A student using terminal leave to begin enrollment at Purdue prior to discharge may receive "qualified veteran" resident status immediately, provided that the student presents to the Residence Classifying Official by the end of the first semester of enrollment a copy of his/her authorized DD-214 (Member-4) that states discharge type and date. If the document is not presented by the due date, the student will be re-classified as non-resident and retroactively charged the non-resident tuition.
- A graduate student who enrolled in a qualified undergraduate course at Purdue University prior to July 1, 2013 and who remains enrolled as an undergraduate student at Purdue on July 1, 2013 or later, and then enrolls into Purdue's Graduate School the semester following graduation, is eligible to retain the resident classification.

Certain Categories of Veterans to which SEA 177 Does Not Apply

- A student who enrolls in a state educational institution later than 12 months after discharge or separation from the United States armed forces or Indiana National Guard is not eligible for

consideration under SEA 177 but, if he or she seeks to enroll at Purdue, would otherwise be considered under Purdue University's policy on residence classification for tuition purposes.

- A veteran who enrolls in a graduate program at Purdue University is not eligible for consideration under SEA 177 but would otherwise be considered under the University's policy on residence classification for tuition purposes. For this purpose, professional degree students (e.g. Doctor of Pharmacy and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) are classified as graduate students.
- Non-degree students are not eligible for qualified veteran resident status based on SEA 177.
- No retroactive reimbursements will be made for semesters concluded prior to the later of: (a) July 1, 2013 or (b) the date on which a qualified veteran's classification is changed to "resident status" based on this process (the "Resident Tuition Effective Date"). In other words, a qualified veteran's eligibility to pay resident tuition will only be recognized for semesters subsequent to such a veteran's Resident Tuition Effective Date.
- SEA 177 does not apply to out-of-state online students.
- A qualified veteran under SEA 177, who does not stay enrolled, leaves the state, and then returns to Indiana to re-enroll will be treated as a non-resident student upon return to the University. These cases will be handled on a case-by-case basis following the University's policy on residence classification for tuition purposes.

Required Steps for Seeking Eligibility for Residence Tuition under SEA 177

- A student seeking resident tuition at Purdue University based on SEA 177 must submit a completed [residence classification form](#) and required supporting documents to the Office of the Registrar for review and decision after being admitted to the University. The last day to submit an application is based on the University's residence policy, which states that the student must apply no later than fifteen (15) business days after the first day of classes of the academic session for which resident classification is sought.
- The student must provide to Purdue no later than 12 months after the date of enrollment at Purdue proof that he/she:
 - Obtained an Indiana driver's license or state identification card; or
 - Registered his/her motor vehicle in Indiana; or
 - Registered to vote in Indiana.
- If the student does not comply with the requirement to provide the necessary documentation, he/she is otherwise subject to Purdue's policy on residence classification for tuition purposes. The University may charge the qualified veteran the difference between the non-resident tuition and the resident tuition charged for the qualified courses in which he/she enrolled in during the first 12 months of enrollment at Purdue.
 - The status of a qualified veteran student who has enrolled at Purdue seeking eligibility to pay resident tuition under SEA 177, but who does not provide the documentation required by SEA 177 by the end of the 12-month period, will be changed to "non-resident" beginning with the semester following the expiration of the 12-month period.
- A veteran student is not eligible to use Yellow Ribbon funding retroactively if he/she did not take the appropriate steps to keep the qualified veteran resident status granted based on SEA 177 after the 12-month period. A veteran student may apply for the Yellow Ribbon going forward for year two.

- A student not satisfied with the decision rendered based on his or her residence classification application may appeal the decision through the University's residence appeal committee. At this time, the University is not aware of any plans to establish an appeal process through the Indiana Commission for Higher Education or another government agency at the state level.

For Reference:

SEA 177, codified at IC 21-14-12.2-1 *et seq*:

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/2010/title21/ar14/ch12.2.pdf>

Purdue University *Residence Classification of Students for Tuition Purposes* form and policy:

<http://www.purdue.edu/registrar/Residency/index.html>