




**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** UNC Chief Academic Officers  
UNC Chiefs of Staff

**FROM:** Kimberly van Noort,   
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer

**DATE:** May 7, 2021

**SUBJECT:** RDS Uniform Cut Off Policy

As you know, the NC General Assembly directed higher education sectors in North Carolina to work together to develop a uniform process for determining residency for in-state tuition and eligibility for state grants. The NC Community College System, the UNC System, and the NC Independent Colleges and Universities worked together to develop the Residency Determination Service (RDS). Currently, all students seeking classification as an in-state resident for tuition purposes, or for state grant eligibility, MUST request a residency determination from RDS. Students receive ONE residency determination which can be shared with all schools to which the student applies.

To ensure uniformity in applying the RDS determination effective date to campus billing, it is important to have a clear cut-off date across the UNC system. After consultation with university representatives and in light of the continuing impacts of COVID-19 on students and families, the current 45-day deadline from the start of the term shall be extended for the 2021-2022 academic year. New determinations, or any changes to determinations, beyond the 45-day cut-off date would be effective the next enrolling term. Note that academic program start dates will vary between campuses and potentially within the same campus. This 45-day window should be prorated for sessions shorter than 16 weeks.

The policy will be reevaluated at the end of Spring 2022.