CENTRALIZED PROCESS TO DETERMINE RESIDENCY FOR TUITION PURPOSES

SECTION 11.23. It is the intent of the General Assembly to establish a coordinated and centralized process for residency determination that enables efficiencies within the public sectors of higher education and that simplifies the process while enhancing accuracy and consistency of outcomes. The State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) is hereby authorized to perform all functions necessary to implement the coordinated and centralized process to apply the criteria in G.S. 116-143.1 to determine residency for tuition purposes of students who apply for admission and are admitted to a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina or a community college under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Community Colleges and for students who apply for State-funded financial aid to attend eligible private postsecondary institutions so that the process will be fully functional for terms of enrollment commencing after December 31, 2016.

The University of North Carolina General Administration and the North Carolina Community College System shall take the necessary actions to facilitate an orderly transition from the campus-based residency determination system to the coordinated and centralized process authorized in this section. Each of the Division of Motor Vehicles of the Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Instruction, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Revenue, the State Board of Elections, and the State Chief Information Officer shall expeditiously cooperate with the SEAA in verifying electronically, or by other similarly effective and efficient means, evidence submitted to the SEAA for the purposes of classifying an individual as a resident for tuition purposes. The SEAA shall consult with representatives of The University of North Carolina General Administration, the North Carolina Community College System, and the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities in implementing the centralized process.