SUBJECT:  Student Residency Requirements

I.  Introduction

It is the responsibility of each student attending Midland College to register under the proper residence classification and pay the correct tuition and fees. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Rule 21.731, requires each student to provide substantiating documentation to affirm residence for tuition purposes. It also requires that students sign an Oath of Residency.

The Midland College Board recognizes the authority of the Coordinating Board to set residency policy as authorized by the Texas Legislature and Midland College will follow the guidelines as set forth by the Coordinating Board.

II.  Residence Classifications

A. Texas Resident - An adult Texas resident (18 years of age and older) is defined as one who has resided continuously within the State of Texas for 12 months immediately prior to his/her original registration. A minor Texas resident is defined as one whose parent(s) or legal guardian has claimed the dependent for federal income tax purposes both at the time of enrollment and for the tax year preceding enrollment. This classification is defined by the State Auditor’s Office and must be adhered to by the institution.

B. Non-Resident - A non-resident student is defined as one who does not qualify as a Texas resident (out-of-state, international, etc.). A non-resident student classification is presumed to be correct so long as the student is in the state primarily for the purpose of attending school. To be reclassified as a resident, after one or more years of residency, the student must show proof of intent to establish Texas as his/her own residency. A student who owns property in the Midland College taxing district may be eligible for a waiver of out-of-state tuition. Students who believe they are eligible for such waivers must contact the Admissions Office.

C. In-District - A Texas resident who physically resides within the geographic boundaries of the Midland College taxing district, excluding student housing or residence halls. To qualify for In-District tuition, a student must have been classified as a Texas resident, and have been a resident of the Midland College taxing district for a period of six months before first enrollment. A student may reclassify from Out-of-District to In-District status, with appropriate documentation, after six month’s residency in the Midland College District.
D. Out-of-District - A Texas resident who does not physically reside within the geographic boundaries of the Midland College taxing district.

Aliens living in the United States under a Visa permitting residence must meet the same requirements for qualifying for resident status for tuition purposes as do U.S. citizens. A permanent resident must meet the same length of residency requirements as a citizen.

III. Written Documentation

Reclassification to Texas Resident

At minimum, Midland College will have on file a copy of one or more of the appropriately dated documents which certify that the student classified as a resident has the legal right to the correct classification as of the official census date of the semester or term for which he or she is enrolling. Documents which may be accepted for this purpose include:

- Texas high school transcript;
- Texas college or university transcript;
- Employer statement of date of employment;
- Permanent Texas drivers’ license (at least one year old). Generally, the license expiration date minus date of enrollment should not exceed three years;
- Property tax payments;
- Bank statement;
- Utility bill;
- Other third party documentation.

Documents submitted will be reviewed before a reclassification is made. The Midland College Admissions Office will provide a Residency Reclassification form that students will complete when applying for reclassification.

Reclassification to In-District Resident

At minimum, Midland College will have on file a copy of at least 2 of the appropriately dated documents which certify that the student classified as a resident has the legal right to the correct classification as of the official census date of the semester or term for which he or she is enrolling. Documents submitted will be reviewed before a reclassification is made. The Midland College Enrollment Services Office will provide a Residency reclassification form that students will complete when applying for reclassification. Documents which may be accepted for this purpose include:

- Texas permanent driver’s license showing Midland College taxing district address
- Current tax receipt showing Midland College taxing district tax status with student’s name
- Texas voter registration card showing Midland College taxing district address
• Lease agreement showing Midland College taxing district address and student’s name
• Current utility bill showing service at Midland College taxing district address and student name (P.O. Box excluded)
• Pay studs with student’s name, address, and date
• Employer statement of date of employment showing Midland College taxing district address and student’s name
• Bank statement showing Midland College taxing district address and student’s name
• High school transcript showing Midland College taxing district address and student’s name
• Other third party documentation

IV. Tuition for Students Residing Outside of the Midland College District

The Midland College Board adopts Section 130.0032, Subchapter A, of the Texas Education Code that permits a person who resides outside of the Midland College District and who owns property subject to ad valorem taxation by the Midland College District, or a dependent of the person, to pay tuition at the rate applicable to a student who resides in the district.

To qualify for this benefit, the property owner or dependent must provide the Admissions Office with a copy of a Notice of Appraised Value Statement from the Midland Central Appraisal District in the property owner or dependent’s name that shows Midland College as one of the taxing units.