



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

Guidance Related to Coronavirus (COVID-19): 2021-22 School Year Residency Requirements

Background

As part of the District's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is modifying certain policies related to residency verification. The policies below were originally released for the 2020-21 school year and are being extended for the 2021-22 school year.

Scope

This document contains guidance specific to residency verification requirements for enrolling students. For additional residency verification requirement guidance, please refer to the OER Handbook [here](#).

Effective Date

The policy outlined below will apply to all students enrolling for the 2021-22 school year. Enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year begins on April 2, 2021. All policies below are extended from the 2020-21 school year and align with the extension of the public health emergency and/or for the duration distance learning is offered as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or until otherwise updated or rescinded.

Policy Guidance

Extension of Expiration Dates on DC Department of Motor Vehicle Documents (DMV) - Updated
As part of the District's response to COVID-19, the DC Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has extended the expiration date for all documents that expired on or after March 1, 2020. These documents shall remain valid until 45 days after the public health emergency concludes, currently set at March 31, 2021.

In response to these changes, valid driver's licenses, identification cards, and vehicle registrations that expired March 1, 2020 through the duration of the public health emergency are acceptable valid supporting documents for residency verification if presented to the LEA on or before 45 days after the public health emergency concludes.

Should the DMV make any additional extensions to expiration dates for these documents, OSSE will make parallel adjustments to expectations for supporting documents for residency verification.

Extension of Remote Home Visitation to Verify Residency

If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent a parent, guardian, custodian, other primary caregiver, or adult student from producing approved residency verification documents, school officials may conduct a home visit with the enrolling person's consent. Traditionally, the home visit is conducted in person with the school official entering the residence and obtaining evidence that verifies the enrolling person resides at the District address. To support social distancing requirements and public health advisements, OSSE is outlining the following steps for a remote home visitation:

- The enrolling person shall complete and sign the Home Visit Consent and Verification form;
- The school official and enrolling person shall connect for the remote home visit through a live video application;
- In one continuous live video, the enrolling person should show the following:
 - The outside of the residence including the address number,
 - The inside of the residence, and
 - Obtain evidence that verifies the enrolling person resides at the District address. Recommended items are outlined on the back of the Home Visit Consent and Verification form;
- The school official shall indicate on the Home Visit Consent and Verification form, in Step 1, that the home visit was conducted remotely; and
- The school official shall complete and sign the Home Visit Consent and Verification form.

In many cases, an enrolling person may only have one of the valid supporting residency documents from the list of acceptable items that require two submissions – DC motor vehicle license or non-driver identification, DC motor vehicle registration, lease, utility bill. It is recommended that the LEA collect the one document the enrolling person may have when agreeing to conduct a remote home visit.

Ability to Request Additional Documentation

As always, pursuant to 5A DCMR § 5002.5, even if appropriate documentation is submitted per this and other OSSE Office of Enrollment and Residency (OER) policies, schools and LEAs always have the ability to request additional documentation if they reasonably conclude that additional information is needed to verify the student's residency or the documentation submitted is for any reason deemed insufficient.

Questions?

If you have questions relating to these policies please contact OSSE's Office of Enrollment and Residency at osse.residency@dc.gov.

For resources and additional information on the District of Columbia Government's coronavirus (COVID-19) response and recovery effort, including any out-of-District travel advisories, please visit coronavirus.dc.gov.