

GRANDPARENT WAIVER INSTRUCTIONS & APPLICATION 2026-2027

The state university Grandparent Waiver was created by the Florida Legislature to allow an out-of-state student with a grandparent who is a legal Florida resident to attend a state university and have out-of-state fees waived. It is the **student's responsibility** to apply for this waiver and submit all necessary documentation in accordance with university deadlines. Waivers are limited in number by law and will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis. First-come first-served order is based upon a complete application for the waiver and to UCF as well as meeting all the pre-enrollment requirements for the waiver. Deadline for submission is the day prior to the start of classes for the term to which you are applying (summer or fall 2026).

Do not submit this document until you have applied for admission to UCF, paid the application fee or requested an application fee waiver, and submitted your SPARK Form and official SAT, ACT, or CLT scores to the UCF Office of Undergraduate Admissions. This document must be completed either by hand or electronically, then scanned & emailed to: debra.reynolds@ucf.edu

Student Eligibility Checklist

First Time in College students must meet the following requirements to be eligible to receive the Grandparent Waiver. **The student must read and check each box below acknowledging their understanding of the requirements.**

- ☐ 1. Have a grandparent who is a legal resident as defined in s. 1009.21(2)a., Florida Statutes.
 - a. The term "grandparent" means a person who has a legal relationship to a student's parent as the natural or adopted parent or legal guardian of the student's parent. The documents a grandparent must provide under Florida law to prove residency must demonstrate that the grandparent has established legal residence in this state and must have maintained legal residence in this state for at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to the grandchild's initial enrollment in an institution of higher education.
- ☐ 2. Earn a high school diploma comparable to a Florida standard high school diploma, or its equivalent, or complete a home education program.
- ☐ 3. Achieve one of the following (required scores have not been determined for 26-27. All students will be placed on a waitlist until they are released):
 - a. A minimum SAT combined score not lower than the SAT User 89th national percentile

- b. A minimum ACT composite score concorded equivalent ACT to the SAT User 89th percentile
 - c. A minimum CLT total score of the concorded value to the SAT eligibility score
- ☐ 4. Enroll as a full-time undergraduate student in the summer or fall term immediately following high school graduation and continuously enroll full-time every fall and spring term until the requirements for a bachelor's degree have been completed.
 - a. The student must maintain continuous, full-time enrollment in each fall and spring term to maintain waiver eligibility.
 - b. Summer enrollment is not required to maintain eligibility for the waiver.
 - c. If a student enrolls part-time in fall or spring, grandparent waiver eligibility will be lost.
- ☐ 5. It is the student's responsibility to apply for this waiver and submit all necessary documentation in accordance with university deadlines.
- ☐ 6. Students should be enrolled continuously to maintain eligibility for the waiver. Otherwise, a student must reapply upon returning to the institution.
- ☐ 7. If a student transfers to another institution, they must apply for the waiver at the new institution for consideration.
- ☐ 8. Students who receive the grandparent waiver will be treated as Florida residents and will only be charged fees charged to resident students.
- ☐ 9. The grandparent waiver is applicable for up to 110 percent of the number of required credit hours (i.e., total degree hours) of the degree program for which the student is enrolled.
- ☐ 10. Waivers, including the Grandparent Waiver, awarded by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions may not be combined with other admissions merit-based scholarships.

The grandparent waiver will be awarded according to the following guidance.

1. The State of Florida has allocated UCF a limited number of grandparent waivers for the 2026-2027 incoming first-year class.
2. Grandparent waivers will be considered for applicants on a first-come, first-served basis as determined by the date the student has submitted all necessary documentation.
3. Email the completed application for the waiver along with supporting documents to debra.reynolds@ucf.edu
4. Grandparent waivers will be granted (awarded) on a first-come, first-served basis up to the maximum university allocation based on the date that all documentation to confirm eligibility for the waiver is received.
5. The waiver may not be applied retroactively.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE GRANDPARENT CLAIMING RESIDENCY

Note: The **GRANDPARENT** is the claimant and will complete this section and provide supporting documentation. No single document, other than Homestead Exemption, shall be conclusive in establishing residency. Additional documentation, other than what is prescribed, may be requested in some cases. All documentation provided is subject to verification. Evidence of ties to another state may result in denial of Florida residency for tuition purposes.

Grandparent (Name of Person Claiming FL Residency): _____

Grandparent's Address: _____

Grandparent's Telephone Number: _____

Date Grandparent began establishing legal FL Residence: _____

Grandparent is a: ☐ US Citizen ☐ Non U.S. Citizen ☐ Other

Alien Registration Number: _____

Issue Date: _____

A copy of both sides of the claimant's card is required. All non- U.S. citizen students are required to submit documentation of their legal status in the United States as issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services office.

PROVISION OF DOCUMENTS TO SUPPORT CLAIM OF FLORIDA RESIDENCY

Students must meet the following requirements to be eligible to receive the Grandparent Waiver.

1. Have a grandparent who is a legal resident as defined in s. 1009.21(2) a., Florida Statutes.
 - a. The term "grandparent" means a person who has a legal relationship to a student's parent as the natural or adopted parent or legal guardian of the student's parent.
 - b. The same residency documentation that claimants provide to demonstrate Florida residency will be required for the grandparent.

The documents a grandparent must provide under Florida law to prove residency are detailed below. The documents must demonstrate that the grandparent has established legal residence in this state and must have maintained legal residence in this state for at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to the grandchild's initial enrollment in an institution of higher education.

Grandparents can provide either:

- ☐ Proof of approved Homestead Exemption in the grandparent's name for a home in Florida

OR

A. Grandparent must provide one or two of the following of his/her/their personal documentation:

- ☐ Florida voter's registration card
 - Number: _____
 - Issue Date: _____
- ☐ Florida Driver's License:
 - Number: _____
 - Original Issue Date: _____
 - Current Issue Date: _____
- ☐ State of Florida Identification Card:
 - Number: _____
 - Original Issue Date: _____
 - Current Issue Date: _____
- ☐ Florida Vehicle Registration
 - Number (VIN): _____
 - Original Issue Date: _____
 - Current Issue Date: _____
- ☐ Proof of permanent home in Florida occupied as primary residence for 12 consecutive months prior to the student's enrollment. (Required: document such as a deed or other evidence of title to property used as primary residence, a homeowner's policy, a title insurance policy, evidence of a property tax payment on the primary residence, or a lease of multiple years' duration)
- ☐ Proof of permanent full-time employment in Florida for at least 30 hours per week for a 12 month period. (Required: pay stubs or W-2 form for past 12 consecutive months)

B. Grandparent may provide one of the following (in addition to one or more items in Section A above):

- ☐ Declaration of domicile in Florida
- ☐ Florida professional or occupational license
- ☐ Florida incorporation
- ☐ Document evidencing family ties to Florida
- ☐ Proof of membership in a Florida-based charitable or professional organization
- ☐ Any other documentation that supports your request for resident status, including, but not limited to, utility bills and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; a lease agreement and proof of 12 consecutive months of payments; or an official state, federal, or court document evidencing legal ties to Florida

Complete the section below, then sign and date if you believe you meet or will meet the requirements checked above. All information provided is subject to verification.

I certify that there is a familial relationship between _____(student) and _____(grandparent), the individual claiming residency, and that it is a grandparent/grandchild relationship as defined in s. 1009.26(20), Florida Statutes. Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read this Grandparent Waiver Application and that the facts stated in it are true.

Out-of-state undergraduate first-year students admitted for the 2026-2027 academic year, students with grandparents residing in Florida may be eligible for a waiver of the Non-Resident (out-of-state) fee.

Name of Student: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Term of Application (check one): Year 20 ____

☐ **Summer**

☐ **Fall**

I declare that I have read this Grandparent Waiver Application and that the facts stated in it are true.

Eligible Grandparent's Printed Name

Eligible Grandparent's Signature

Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

Student's Printed Name

Student's Signature

Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

Note: This document must be printed and completed by hand or electronically, then scanned and emailed to Debra Reynolds at debra.reynolds@ucf.edu. Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing from the time we receive the form in our office.

Authority and regulation: Section 1009.26(20), Florida Statutes, and Board of Governors Regulation 7.008 Waivers and Exemptions of Tuition and Fees.