

## New Residency Verification Requirements

### Frequently Asked Questions - Families

*Updated: March 12, 2026*

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#### 1. Why do I need to verify my address more frequently?

- There is a new law (Act 47, passed into state law in November 2025) that requires additional address verification.
- We are required to follow the law. Providing accurate proof of residency ensures that billing is accurate.

#### 2. Does this law apply to everyone?

- The law does not apply to:
  - Students experiencing homelessness (MKV)
  - Families who completed a change of address on or after November 1, 2025
  - Families who enrolled on or after November 1, 2025

#### 3. What do I need to do?

- The new law states that, in addition to providing a valid proof of residency at the time of enrollment, families verify residency by March 1 and November 1 of each school year.
- Residency is verified by completing a Residency Verification Form (1 per household) and a Charter Form (1 per student).
- The Verification Form will instruct you to upload a proof of residency document.

#### 4. What is a Charter Form?

- The Charter School Enrollment Form was developed by the PA Department of Education to communicate with school districts about a resident student's decision to attend a charter school. This form collects key information about the student, the name and address of their parent or guardian, and the name of their local school district. The form must be signed by the parent or guardian and submitted to the local school district.
- A separate Charter Enrollment Form is required for each student in the household.

#### 5. What is a proof of residency?

- A proof of residency is a document that verifies a student's primary residence. This information determines which school district is responsible for paying the student's tuition to a charter school.
- Only one (1) proof of residency per household is required.

#### 6. What documents can I submit as proof of residence?

- You need to submit only one (1) of these documents per household. The document must include the primary caretaker's name and address. The following documents are acceptable:
  - Currently active signed lease agreement (all pages)
  - Mortgage statement (less than three months old)
  - Bank statement (less than three months old)
  - Utility bill (natural gas, water, electricity, or internet) (less than three months old)
  - Tax bill (less than three months old)
  - Insurance document (less than three months old)
  - Valid vehicle registration
  - Valid driver's license or Pennsylvania Department of Transportation identification card
  - A letter sent by the federal or state government, such as benefits information, voter registration, or tax documents.

**7. What if I want to use a driver's license or bank statement, but I do not want to share all of the personal information on those documents?**

- Proof of residency collection is secure. Account numbers and financial information can be redacted (blacked out with a marker). It is only necessary to see the date and the primary caretaker's name and address.

**8. Are the acceptable proof of residency documents different from what I submitted when I enrolled or last changed my address?**

- Possibly, the new law limits the types of documents that can be submitted as proof of residency.

**9. How do I know if I am required to verify my residency by March 1, 2026?**

- If the requirement applies to you, you will receive communication from the charter school with the Residency Verification Form and Charter Form.

**10. Why is this important? What will happen if I do not provide proof of residency for each required verification?**

- Residency verification is required by law.
- It is possible that school districts will challenge a resident refusing to pay tuition without a Residency Verification Form.

**11. The letter from my school district says that they will send a school police officer to my home to do a residency check if I do not submit proof of address to them. What should I do?**

- Submitting verification will ensure that the district receives the appropriate documentation, so additional residency checks should be unnecessary.

**12. The letter from my school district indicates potential consequences for not submitting verification. What is and is not permitted by school districts?**

- Your local school district may not do the following:
  - Force the charter school to withdraw a student
  - Make you responsible for tuition payments
  - Require multiple address documents or forms of address that are not listed as acceptable proof of residency
  - Require you to meet with them to provide your proof of address
  - Require you to participate in their district's cyber option
  - Demand IEP information
  - Prohibit a student from attending their district school while they are waiting for their charter school enrollment date, resulting in unexcused absences