

## **Gonzaga University Residency Requirement**

The residency requirement is published in the University Catalog, on the University web site, and in the annual Student Handbook. It requires students to live on a college campus for four complete semesters, not including summer terms, or turn 21 years of age prior to opening day of fall semester, in order to qualify to live off campus.

It is important that families plan academic year housing well in advance of the year and “commit” to the year once the student moves in. This suggests a level of careful thought regarding finances, medical issues, and opportunities to live at home while attending Gonzaga University.

A related but separate issue is the Rental Agreement students sign to live on campus, which hold financial penalties for failure to honor the commitment the entire year. While an exemption for the Residency Requirement might be awarded in a given case, often this triggers financial penalties under the Rental Agreement “liquidation of damages” clause, up to an including full remaining rent due.

Exemptions to this requirement are limited to four categories:

1. Living with immediate family in Spokane area (siblings over 21 years of age, parents). This category of exemption is only good prior to moving in. After moving in, because of the binding Rental Agreement, we will not approve mid-year move outs.
2. Marriage. A marriage certificate to prove actual marriage is required.
3. Financial burden which would normally require you to leave Gonzaga University if not allowed to move off campus.
4. Medical conditions which the University is unable to accommodate on campus.

Each of these four reasons requires some verification from third parties associated with documentation of the situation. The Exemption Form must be accompanied by the documentation before decisions are made on the request.