

## **Emancipation: College Tuition**

This guide is for someone who would like to declare themselves emancipated for the purpose of establishing domicile and filing for financial aid. Check out your school's website for school-specific instructions and consider contacting the Financial Aid Office for assistance.

### **Q: What is the point of being emancipated?**

**A:** Emancipation allows you to establish a domicile that is separate from your parents/guardians and file the FAFSA independently for the purposes of in-state tuition. To be an in-state student, you must establish both physical presence and intent. Physical presence requires proof that your legal residence is in Colorado. Intent requires proof that you are making Colorado your permanent home. Check out the [Colorado Department of Higher Education](#) for more information.

### **Q: Who qualifies as emancipated in Colorado for the purposes of establishing domicile?**

**A:** In Colorado, anyone over the age of 23 years old is automatically qualified to establish domicile separate from their parent/guardian. Additionally, individuals who are married, an active duty military personnel, or pursuing a post-baccalaureate degree program are able to establish domicile separate from their parents.

If you do not meet any of these criteria but still wish to establish a separate domicile, you may petition for emancipation through your school by proving that you are financially independent over a one-year waiting period.

### **Q: Can I establish in-state residency while a student?**

**A:** Yes, however, being a student at a school in Colorado is not enough by itself to establish residency. You must meet the physical presence and intent requirements still.