

Do I qualify for Arizona resident prices?



Registering a Watercraft

You are entitled to register your watercraft as an Arizona resident, if you meet the following requirements:

1. If you own a motor vehicle, you have registered it in Arizona; and
2. You are required to register your motor vehicles in Arizona.

To find out whether you are required to register your motor vehicles in Arizona, note that A.R.S. 28-2001 defines the criteria as meeting one or more of the following:

1. You live in Arizona more than seven months of each calendar year.
2. You work full time in Arizona or have accepted permanent employment in Arizona, which cannot be seasonal agricultural work or temporary seasonal work.
3. You enroll your minor children in public school without payment of non-resident tuition(s).
4. You declare that you are a resident, as opposed to a non-resident, to obtain at resident rates a state license, such as a hunting or fishing license or any other license that has resident and non-resident rates, or tuition at a state university or community college.
5. You or your partnership, company, firm, corporation or association maintains a main office, branch office or warehouse facilities in Arizona and operates motor vehicles in Arizona.
6. You or your partnership, company, firm, corporation or association operates motor vehicles for transportation within the state of Arizona for activities other than seasonal agricultural work.

Buying Hunting and Fishing Licenses

A.R.S. 17-101.15 defines a resident as someone who has been a bona fide resident of the state of Arizona for six months immediately preceding the date of application for a license, or a member of the armed forces who has been stationed in Arizona for a minimum period of 30 days.

Bona fide means that you are "truly" a resident of Arizona. The issue of residency is weighed by evaluating two factors:

1. **Physical presence.** You must have lived in Arizona for the statutorily mandated period.
2. **Intent.** You must consider Arizona as your primary residence. Evidence that displays intent of residency are: Arizona driver's license, Arizona vehicle registration, school tuition or enrollment, voter registration, permanent employment records, primary bank accounts, federal or state tax records. Conversely, evidence of above in another state weighs against your intent.

Additional Information:

There is a difference between domicile and residency. One can own property in Arizona without being an Arizona resident. In fact, one can spend a large portion of every year in Arizona and not be a bona fide Arizona resident. If you obtain resident rates for special licenses or tuition in another state, you cannot apply for resident rates in Arizona. Likewise, if you exercise resident privileges for the purposes of hunting or fishing in Arizona, you cannot do so in another state. You cannot claim to be a resident of two states at the same time.

Arizona Game and Fish Department

Phoenix	(602) 942-3000	Pinetop	(928) 367-4281
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