A. WHY RDS: It’s NC law:
QUALIFY FOR: In-state TUITION at NC public colleges and universities
BE ELIGIBLE FOR: NC state GRANT consideration at all NC colleges and universities

B. DO RDS FIRST:
BEFORE College Admission Applications
ON THEIR OWN If student is 24 or older
WITH A parent/legal guardian (in most cases, NC law requires RDS to ask for parent information)
OR PROVE Student is financially independent

C. STUDENTS GOES TO RDS at www.ncresidency.org
STEP 1 LOGIN to RDS using student’s CFNC User Name and Password
STEP 2 UPDATE student’s Profile (BE ACCURATE – SSN and Date of Birth are critical)
STEP 3 RDS Online Interview with parent/legal guardian (HS student needs their information)
  • social security numbers (or other identifiable number)
  • tax return information, vehicle registration, and driver’s license
  • voter registration and other information about residency in North Carolina
STEP 4 UPLOAD documents (RDS tells student if she needs documents – not everyone does)

D. REMEMBER:
DON’T GUESS RDS checks answers with NC State Agencies
Guessing = NON-resident
SUBMIT DOCS RDS shows if you need documents and which ones – not everyone does
UPLOAD or send to RDS; NOT done without required documents (student has 25 days)

E. RDS STATUS SCREEN – when student finishes, she sees:
STUDENT RCN Residency Certification Number (unique identifier never changes)
CLASSIFICATION “Resident” or “Non-Resident” AND “In-State” or “Out-of-State” tuition
DOCUMENTS 20% of students required to submit documents
RDS shows if you need documents and which ones – NOT everyone does
NOT done without required documents (student has 25 days)

F. STUDENT DOESN’T AGREE with her determination?
Review your status at RDS. Login at www.ncresidency.org
RECONSIDERATION to correct or enter additional information
APPEAL to provide special information – student has 10 days to request
Some students may have special circumstances that prevent the RDS system from determining your residency status. If you believe the student should be considered a resident of North Carolina, the student may appeal the RDS determination, and the student will have the opportunity to show RDS additional documents and proof of residency in North Carolina. Call RDS toll-free: 844-319-3640

G. NEXT – STUDENT DOES COLLEGE ADMISSION APPLICATION(S):
Go to CFNC.org APP HUB (RCN prefills on CFNC applications)
Go to college website (enter RCN when asked)