March 17, 2020

CHANCELLORS
EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLORS/PROVOSTS

Dear Colleagues:

Consistent with my delegated authority as UC Provost, I am issuing temporary amendments to the University’s guidelines on establishing residency in the context of systemwide COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

In order to receive in-state status under Regents Policy 3105, a student must demonstrate: (1) physical presence in California for more than one year and (2) intent to make a primary and permanent home in California. (Regents Policy 3105 I.B.1-2.).

Of particular importance now is that students are making decisions to temporarily leave California for their own health and safety. Their time outside of the state may exceed the six weeks allowed to establish physical presence under our current guidelines and we do not want to disadvantage these students in their attempt to establish California residency. Therefore, I am issuing the following temporary amendments to UC residency policy and the related guidelines.

TEMPORARY AMENDMENT TO UC RESIDENCY POLICY AND GUIDELINES

The UC Residency Policy and Guidelines (the “Guidelines”) currently provide that absences of six weeks or more in a one-year period disqualify a student from receiving in-state status. The Guidelines are hereby amended to provide that a student’s absence from the state for any length of time between March 9, 2020 and the Residency Determination Date for Fall 2020 at their campus shall not be counted toward the six week limit if the absence is caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This means that students who temporarily leave California in response to the pandemic remain eligible for in-state residency for the 2020-21 academic year so long as they meet all other applicable eligibility requirements.

The Guidelines are further amended to provide that a student, who has been or may be granted in-state status based on Financial Independence, may accept or use financial resources from another individual between March 9, 2020 and the end of the 2019-20 academic year without loss of eligibility for in-state status if the transfer of resources is made in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

All Guidelines contrary to the provisions of this amendment, except those adopted by the Regents, shall be suspended to the extent of the conflict, during the period this
amendment remains in force. Further extensions of this policy will be considered if necessary to accommodate students whose circumstances are impacted by the COVID-19 emergency. Please note this temporary amendment is not intended to contradict Regents Policy 3105. These amendments stand until such time as they are rescinded by the UC Provost.

We will continue to work with campus leadership, as well as those performing the residence reviews, to ensure a fair process that does not adversely affect students who would have, but for the disruptions resulting from the coronavirus, otherwise established California residency. Further questions about the implementation of this can be directed to Director of Student Financial Support Brick at shawn.brick@ucop.edu or 510.987.9530.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Brown, Ph.D.
Provost and
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Cc: President Napolitano
General Counsel Robinson
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Gullatt
Chief of Staff to the Provost Peterson
Director of Student Financial Support Brick