April 29, 2020

Ms. Kathleen Greer, USG:
Ms. Roaya Higazi, USG:
Mr. Stephen Post, CGS:
Mr. Jordan Vajda, IPC:

This is a follow-up to your letter of March 27, 2020, and the more recent meeting that you had with staff from the Registrar’s Office. We appreciate that many students are experiencing truly unusual circumstances that, for some, may potentially impact the consideration of their residency petitions.

Specifically, you are seeking clarification regarding out-of-state employment for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year and the use of such income for a residency petition; as well as the utilization of state and/or federal aid during that same time period.

As you mentioned, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) provided some guidance regarding issues raised in your letter:

- **A more extended time period away from Ohio under the current circumstances.** The ODHE guidelines provide time flexibility beyond the normal 2 to 4-week limit away from Ohio so long as the student continues to “comply with all other criteria as if he/she was in Ohio, including but not limited to, the following:
  - Maintain or obtain an Ohio Driver’s license (or does not have a driver’s license issued by another state);
  - Maintain registration or register to vote in Ohio (or is not registered to vote in another state);
  - Maintain a permanent address in Ohio (excluding those that are not permitted to return to university student housing);
  - File Ohio taxes (if taxes are filed) as a full-time resident at the time of earning those wages; and
  - Is not claimed as a dependent on tax filings by an out-of-state resident and maintains financial independence."

It would follow, that Ohio State takes the following approach regarding your requests:

- **Utilization of employment resources earned while away from Ohio.** The university will affirmatively permit students seeking residency classification to hold out-of-state employment in accordance with Ohio’s declared State of Emergency status, and Executive and Public Health orders issued in response to the COVID-19 disease. The income earned during the out-of-state period is
deemed eligible for use in a residency petition so long as those students fully satisfy the tax responsibilities of Ohio residents, including, but not limited to, Ohio withholding from pay and either proof of Ohio taxation or an intent of taxation for the following tax year.

- *Utilization of state and/or federal financial aid while away from Ohio.* In addition, the university will affirmatively permit students seeking residency classification to use state or federal aid for the same time period so long as those students fully satisfy the tax responsibilities of Ohio residents. Any receipt of public assistance or aid which requires the student be a resident of another state, shall not be permitted.

Since I will be leaving the office this week (The new University Registrar begins her tenure next Monday.), if you have any follow-up questions, please address them to Rebecca Bertran, Assistant Registrar, Student Academic Records, at bertran.4@osu.edu.

Sincerely,

Brad A. Myers, J.D.
Interim University Registrar

Cc: Rebecca Bertran, Registrar’s Office
    Ryan Hunt, Registrar’s Office
    Fallon Perl, Registrar’s Office
    Christine Richardson, Registrar’s Office