

Rules for determining where an individual is resident

32. (1) The following rules apply to determine for the purposes of this Act the place where an individual is resident:
- (a) an individual is a resident of the place where the individual lives and to which, whenever absent, the individual intends to return;
 - (b) an individual may be the resident of only one place at a time for the purposes of this Act;
 - (c) an individual does not change the place where the individual is a resident until the individual has a new place where the individual is a resident;
 - (d) an individual does not cease being a resident of a place by leaving the place for temporary purposes only.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1) (d), a temporary purpose within the meaning of that subsection includes being absent from British Columbia
- (a) while the individual is engaged in the service of the government of British Columbia or Canada,
 - (b) as the spouse of an individual referred to in paragraph (a), or
 - (c) as an individual who is in a child-parent relationship with an individual referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) and who is accompanying that individual for this reason.
- (3) As an exception to subsection (1), if for the purposes of attending an educational institution an individual establishes a new place where the individual is a resident that is away from the usual place where the individual is a resident, the individual may choose for the purposes of this Act either the usual place or the new place as the place where the individual is resident.
- (4) As an exception to subsection (1), an individual who is imprisoned in a penal institution is not by that imprisonment a resident of the place where the penal institution is located, but instead is deemed for the purposes of this Act to be a resident of whichever of the following the individual chooses:
- (a) the place where the individual was a resident before being imprisoned;
 - (b) the place where a spouse, as described in subsection (2) (b), parent or dependant of the individual is a resident within the meaning of subsection (1).
- (5) Temporary residential quarters are considered to be an individual's place of residence only if the individual has no other place that the individual considers to be his or her residence.
- (6) For the purposes of this Act, an individual who has no dwelling place may register as a voter on the basis that the individual's place of residence is a shelter, hostel or similar institution that provides food, lodging or other social services.