

# CubingUSA Regional and State Championship Award and Title Policy

Version 1.1

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## Scope

This policy applies to CubingUSA Regional and State Championships run as “CubingUSA Supported Competitions”.

Some State Championships may be independently-run, not as CubingUSA Supported Competitions.

- CubingUSA will only recognize these State Championships and their titles if they also use the CubingUSA residency-declaration system.
- Such competitions will be independently responsible for proof of residency verification.

## Summary

- Podium (first, second, and third place) and accompanying awards at Regional and State Championships are open to all competitors regardless of residency.
- **Resident-specific titles (Regional Champion or State Champion)** are granted to the top competitor in each event with an eligible residency.
- Competitors may only be eligible for resident-specific titles corresponding to **one residency per calendar year**.
  - Specifically, once a competitor joins a Regional or State Championship where they are eligible for resident-specific titles, it becomes their "**Locked Residency**" for the remainder of the calendar year, regardless of whether they move later in the year.
- **What competitors need to do:**
  - Declare accurate residency information on cubingusa.org **before** the competition.
  - Provide proof of residency if they win a title.
    - Bring proof of residency to the competition if they might win a title.
    - If proof of residency is not provided at the competition, title winners must provide it online **within 7 days** after the competition, or the title will be revoked. (See below for valid forms of proof.)
- **CubingUSA Deputies are responsible for the following:**
  - Announce a Residency Declaration Deadline on the competition registration page and actively remind competitors to declare residency.
  - Ask top-ranked competitors to optionally submit proof of residency in advance.
  - Determine eligible title winners.
  - Verify proof of residency, at the competition or online, adhering to the privacy policy.

## Open Podium and Resident-Specific Titles

- Open Podium
  - First, second, and third place of each event and any accompanying awards or prizes are granted to the top competitors in each event, regardless of residency.
- Resident-Specific Titles
  - The best result in the Final Round by a competitor eligible for resident-specific titles are declared the "**Regional Champion**" or "**State Champion**" for that event.
    - If no one in the Final Round in an event is eligible for the title, then the title is simply not granted.

## Residency Declaration and Eligibility

- **Competitors should log in to cubingusa.org with their WCA account and declare accurate residency information on the cubingusa.org settings page.**
- Each Regional and State Championship should announce a **Residency Declaration Deadline**.
  - This deadline must be before any rounds of the competition begins.
  - Unless otherwise specified, the default deadline is **23:59 local time the night before the first day of the competition**.
  - The competitor's residency on the cubingusa.org settings page at the time of the deadline becomes their **Declared Residency** for the competition.
- If a competitor has **not** yet attended a Regional or State Championship where they had an Eligible Residency, i.e. if they do **not** yet have a Locked Residency:
  - If the competitor's Declared Residency does **not** match the Region or State of the championship, they are **ineligible** for resident-specific titles.
    - They may still change their residency before the next championship.
  - If a competitor's Declared Residency matches the Region or State of the championship, they have an **Eligible Residency**.
    - They are **eligible** for resident-specific titles.
    - They now have a **Locked Residency** for the rest of the calendar year.
- If a competitor has already attended a Regional or State Championship where they had an Eligible Residency, i.e. if they already have a Locked Residency:
  - If the competitor's Locked Residency does **not** match the Region or State of the championship, they are **ineligible** for resident-specific titles, regardless of what their currently registered residency is on their cubingusa.org settings.
  - If the competitor's Locked Residency matches the Region or State of the championship, they have an **Eligible Residency** and are **eligible** for resident-specific titles.
- The above will all be handled by CubingUSA software.
  - All Regional and State Championships run as CubingUSA Supported Competitions will use the above residency-declaration system.
  - CubingUSA will only recognize State Championships which are not CubingUSA Supported Competitions if they also use this residency-declaration system.

## Residency Changes Example

- Competitor's residency is declared as New York, but they attend the Heartland Championship in Minnesota.
  - Competitor's **Declared Residency** is New York, so they are **not** eligible to be Heartland Regional Champion.
  - This does **not** lock their residency to New York.
- Competitor moves to Texas and updates their residency.
- Competitor attends Southern Championship in Texas.
  - Competitor's Declared Residency is Texas, so they have an **Eligible Residency**, and they are eligible to be Southern Regional Champion.
  - Texas becomes the competitor's **Locked Residency** for the rest of the year.
- Competitor moves to California and updates their residency.
- Competitor attends Western Championship in California.
  - Competitor's actual residency is now California, but their Locked Residency remains Texas, so they are **not** eligible for resident-specific titles in California.
- Similarly, at this point, competitor would be eligible to be Texas State Champion but not California State Champion at a respective State Championship.

## Proof of Residency

Note that title eligibility is based on residency, not citizenship.

### Valid Documentation

Proof of residency may be in two forms:

- Proof of residency for the competitor
- Proof of residency for the competitor's parent or guardian, with a statement from the parent or guardian that the competitor lives with them.

Pre-approved forms of residency verification include:

- State Driver's License or State ID (must be current)
- School or college ID; must have EITHER:
  - expiration date in the future OR
  - issue date only, within 4 years
- School or college transcript (within 6 months)
- Utility bill (within 90 days) (no cell phone bills accepted)
- Lease or Section 8 agreement (must be current)
- Vehicle registration (must be current)
- Homeowner's, renter's, or vehicle insurance policy (must be current)
- Mortgage statement (within 90 days)
- Property tax statement (within 1 year)

Competitors, parents, or guardians who would like to present an alternate form of residency verification not listed above **should contact the organizers before the competition** to request an exception. CubingUSA may or may not accept other forms of documentation at its sole discretion.

## Presentation of Verification

- In person
  - All Regional Champions or State Champions must provide proof of residency to keep the resident-specific title.
  - At the competition, proof of residency may be presented to the CubingUSA Deputy.
- Online
  - Before the competition, the CubingUSA Deputy may ask top-ranked competitors to optionally upload proof of residency in advance.
    - This is strictly optional and only intended to streamline the competition.
    - Competitors may always wait to present proof in person at the competition.
    - (We recommend asking for documentation from top 8 ranked competitors in each event, but details are up to competition organizers.)
  - After the competition, Regional Champions and State Champions who have not yet provided proof of residency will be given **7 days** after the end of the competition to provide upload proof of residency.
    - If proof is not provided in time, the resident-specific title will be revoked and offered to the next best result from an eligible finalist (who will then have up to 7 days to provide proof of residency if not already provided).
  - In both cases, proof of residency will be upload through a link that the CubingUSA Deputy will provide.

## Privacy Policy

- In-person
  - The CubingUSA Deputy will log relevant information about the documentation but will **not** keep a copy of it.
- Online
  - Only CubingUSA Directors, Deputies, and relevant Officers will have access to the uploaded documentation.
  - Once reviewed and confirmed, CubingUSA will log relevant information and then delete the uploaded documentation.

## Verification Logging

For each verified competitor, CubingUSA Deputies should log:

- Competitor's name
- Competitor's WCA ID
- Form of ID presented
- Issue date or billing date, if applicable
- Expiration date, if applicable
- Parent or Guardian's name, if applicable
- Parent or Guardian's confirmation that the competitor lives with them
- Name of Deputy verifier

Any information logged by hand at the competition should be transcribed to a spreadsheet provided by CubingUSA.

## CubingUSA Deputy Responsibilities

- Before the competition
  - CubingUSA Deputies should inform competitors, both through the competition website and through emails, that they should declare their residency on our website before the competition, and that they should bring proof of residency in case they win a title.
  - As mentioned above, Deputies may ask top-ranked competitors to proactively upload proof of residency, and Deputies are also responsible for verification.
    - We recommend contacting top 8 in each event.
    - Deputies should bring a list of pre-approved competitors to the competition.
- At the competition
  - Determine the top competitor in each event with an Eligible Residency.
    - CubingUSA Software Team will provide a webpage to assist with this.
  - Verify and log proof of residency of all Regional Champions and State Champions before the Awards Ceremony, referring to documentation of pre-verified competitors, if any.
- After the competition
  - Send Regional Champions and State Champions without proof of residency the upload form and notify them that they have up to 7 days to prove their residency.
  - Decisions to revoke a title due to lack of proof may be made by the Deputy. The CubingUSA Executive Director may also make this decision or override the decision of the Deputy.

Proof of Residency will NOT be handled by CubingUSA for any independently-run State Championships that are not CubingUSA Supported Competitions. However, organizers of these competitions must send CubingUSA a statement confirming that they have performed residency verification in order for CubingUSA to recognize these State Champions.