Guide to Student Residency for Voting

What are the requirements for voting residency in Wisconsin?	Under Wisconsin Statutes, an individual must reside in an election ward for at least 10 consecutive days and have no present intent to move. A person does not lose residency for voting purposes by leaving an established residence for temporary purposes with intent to return to the residence. Student status is not a consideration in determining residence for the purpose of establishing voter residency.
What is the 10 consecutive day requirement?	The 10 consecutive day requirement does not mean that a voter must sleep at or remain at the location for 10 consecutive days before being eligible to vote there. Under Stat. 6.10(5), a person does not lose residence by leaving home and going somewhere else for <u>temporary</u> purposes. For instance, a voter may move to a location on a weekend 10 days before an election with the intent to make it their voting residence, spend time travelling or at the previous residence on a temporary basis for part or all of the next 10 days, and still vote from the new location. In that case the voter has established a physical presence at the new ward with the required intent to claim residency and the voter can vote from this address even if they are gone for temporary purposes. An example is a truck driver who is only home on the weekend continues to accrue days for the 10-day requirement throughout an entire month even though the individual may not be physically present at the home more than 2 consecutive days.
What is meant by "no present intent to move" and "intent to return"?	It is not necessary that there be an intention to remain permanently at the voting address. It is sufficient that the place is for the time being the home of the voter to the exclusion of other places. Once established, a person's residency is presumed to continue until a new one is established. A voter's statements and actions alone can establish intent.
What if I voted from my home address in the last election and want to vote from my campus residence for the next election?	If the student intends to make the campus address their residency for voting purposes, and begins to establish or re- establish a physical presence there at least 10 days before the election, the student is permitted to vote at the campus address. For example, a student voted at home at the spring election. During the summer, the student stays at the campus address and re-establishes residency there with the intent to make it their permanent residence for voting in the fall election.

May a student establish residency at home and vote from that location after previously having voted on campus?	A student could have re-established residency at the home address during summer break, another school break, or even a weekend, if the student had the requisite intent to establish that residency as their voting address. If the student intends to make the home address their residency for voting purposes, and begins to establish or re-establish a physical presence there at least 10 days before the election, the student is permitted to vote at the home address.
If I have resided at my campus address for 10 consecutive days, will live at my parents' home or elsewhere during the summer, and intend to return to a campus address in the fall, where may I vote?	Once a student has established residency at a campus address, the student may register to vote and may vote using the student's campus address until the student establishes a new voting residence. This is the case even if the student is temporarily away from campus and does not know their campus address for the following school year. If the student has previously registered to vote at the campus address, the student may not register to vote at a home or different address until re-establishing residency for 10 consecutive days prior to the election. Alternatively, a student may register to vote from a home address if the student has not yet registered to vote from a campus address. In that case the student's home address is considered the permanent address for voting purposes and the student is only temporarily away from that address during the school year.
If I am living at my campus address during the summer, where may I vote?	A student who has registered to vote at a campus address and continues to live there during the summer must vote from that location. A student who has registered to vote at a home address and lives on campus during the summer may vote from the home address or may register and vote from the campus address.
If I have graduated or have left school, am moving from my campus address and do not intend to return in the fall, where may I vote?	An individual who is registered to vote at a Wisconsin campus or home address, leaves that address permanently, and moved to another Wisconsin residence may continue to vote using the prior address until establishing residency for 10 consecutive days at the new location. An individual who leaves their Wisconsin campus or home address and moves to an out-of-State residence, and who has no intent to return to the ward in which the prior address is located, may not vote in an election from the prior address.