

## Declaration & Certification of Finances (DCF) for Students Starting in Spring 2026

*Estimated minimum funding requirements for issuance of I-20 can be found below \* Tuition and fees are subject to change  
This is our best estimate of your costs: your total may vary depending on your major/selected courses*

### Your DCF Checklist:

- Required: Complete part 1: You must complete this section. We cannot issue your I-20 without this information even if you have a full scholarship/assistantship.
- Read the list of required documents and other important information on page 4.
- Required in most situations: Complete part 2: Your sponsor/s need to complete and sign this section (exceptions are listed below)
  - Be sure to read the information on page 4 about acceptable documents and additional paperwork required if your sponsor is a company or business.
- Optional: complete Part 3 only if you are bringing dependents
- Required: Upload page 2 of this DCF form (and page 3 if bringing dependents) and all supporting documents to your portal so we can issue your I-20.
  - Law students should email their documents to [immigration@uakron.edu](mailto:immigration@uakron.edu).

### Documents to upload to your portal:

- Required: Immigration information form (found in your portal).
  - The information you provide on this form will prompt our system to request the necessary documents so we can issue your I-20.
- Required: Copy of the biographical (photo) page of your passport.
  - If you do not have a passport, please provide either your birth certificate or a copy of the receipt you received when you applied for your passport.
  - A passport that is valid at least 6-months beyond your travel dates is required for your visa interview.
- Required: Completed DCF form/s.
- Required: Financial documentation showing available funds for at least one academic year's worth of expenses.
- Required if you have more than one sponsor: part 2 of this DCF signed by each sponsor *and* supporting financial information for each sponsor.
- Required if your sponsor is a company/business: a letter from the business/company, this DCF signed in part 2 by a representative of the company *and* financial documents showing they can support you financially.
- Optional: additional documents if you are bringing dependents.

### Questions? [immigration@uakron.edu](mailto:immigration@uakron.edu)

Please allow at least 3-5 business days for us to issue your I-20. It may take longer at busy times or when a team member is out of the office.

### Be sure to avoid these common mistakes for quick I-20 issuance:

- Don't forget to sign your DCF, and have your sponsor/s sign too (see exceptions below)
- Remember to include the \$ amount on this DCF that you and/or your sponsors will provide to support your education. We do not assume we can show all funds available in a bank account on your I-20.
- Don't forget the letter etc required from sponsoring companies/businesses.
- Ensure we can read your documents – no blurry financials, please, and be sure we can see the bottom line of your passport as well as the top (country of issuance).
- Make sure the documents you send us meet our requirements.
- Try to use the correct document name when uploading to your portal. Saving everything as "other" will slow us down, but we will be able to use sponsor documents labelled as personal, and vice versa.

## PART 1: TO BE COMPLETED BY YOU, THE STUDENT

- This section is required to confirm the source of your funding, your current location and visa (if any), and whether you will be bringing dependents with you.
- We also require supporting financial documents. The list of acceptable documents can be found on the next page.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Last name, first name, as it appears on your passport).

Your student ID# (if known): \_\_\_\_\_.

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently in the USA? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what is your current visa status: \_\_\_\_\_

Check each box that applies to you. You can check more than one box:

- I have my own funds to support my studies. The amount of funding is USD \$ \_\_\_\_\_. I will be able to provide this amount each year.
- I will be using an educational loan
  - Upload a copy of your loan agreement. The loan provider does not need to sign part 2.
- I will be supported by a sponsor(s).
  - If you have more than one sponsor, you will need to upload a DCF signed in section 2 and supporting documents from each one.
- I have a scholarship (Government, athletic, academic, etc)
  - The scholarship provider does not need to sign part 2.
- I have an assistantship from the University of Akron.
  - Your department does not need to sign part 2
- I am planning to bring dependent(s).
  - Complete part 3 below, and be sure to send the additional documents required.

*I certify that the information provided on this form is correct and complete. Likewise, I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to notify the International Center of any changes in this information and/or in my financial circumstances.*

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART 2: TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR SPONSOR:

- See above for sponsors who do not need to sign this section.
- We require a wet signature, not an e-signature from your sponsor.
- Attach a copy of your financial documentation. See below for acceptable documents especially if your sponsor is a company/business

I certify that I am the financial sponsor, providing financial support in the amount of USD \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year to cover the costs associated with the student's education.

Sponsor's relationship to the student: \_\_\_\_\_ (eg: parent, friend, employer, etc.)

Sponsor's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Estimated Minimum Funding Requirements for Issuance of I-20

- Tuition and fees are subject to change
- This is our best estimate of your costs for 9 (or 12) months of expenses. Your total may vary depending on your major and selected courses.
- If you have conditional admission will be studying in the English Language institute, please use the ELI total below.
- Graduate students with a 12-month assistantship contract are required to enroll in summer classes.

Education Level	Tuition & Fees	Living Expenses	Health Insurance	Personal Expenses & Books	Total
Undergraduate	\$21,736	\$13,180	\$1,370	\$3,426	\$39,712
Graduate (taking classes in Spring and Fall)	\$16,800	\$13,983	\$1,370	\$3,426	\$35,579
Graduate (taking classes in Spring, Summer, & Fall as required by some programs)	\$18,640	\$18,644	\$1,370	\$4,568	\$43,222
Law	\$26,749	\$13,983	\$1,370	\$3,426	\$45,528
English Language Institute*	\$10,750	\$13,180	\$1,370	\$3,426	\$28,726

### PART 3: TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF YOU ARE BRINGING DEPENDENTS:

- If you will be bringing your spouse and/or child(ren), complete the chart below. Otherwise, leave this section blank.

Family (Last) Name, First Name(s)	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	Country of Birth	Country of Citizenship	Gender	Relationship (Spouse or Child)

If bringing your spouse, provide their email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Check list of documents needed to issue I-20s for dependents:

- If you bring dependents, you will need to add \$4,125 per dependent (\$5,500 per dependent for students relying on a 12-month GA contract) to the total estimated cost of attendance above.
- Submit copies of passports for all your dependents (to confirm names)
  - If they do not have passports, send us copies of their birth certificates.
  - Note: A passport is required for the visa interview
- If bringing your spouse, submit a copy of your marriage certificate with a certified English translation if necessary (to confirm their relationship to you)
- If bringing your child(ren), submit a copy or copies of their birth certificate(s) with a certified English translation if necessary (to confirm their relationship to you).
- See page 4 for a list of acceptable financial documents.

## **READ THIS: Declaration & Certification of Finances (DCF) Guidelines**

**The funds you provide should be considered a minimum you can expect to spend per academic year (9 months/2 semesters).**

- There are many things that the cost of attendance estimate does not include, such as room/board during academic breaks, international travel, entertainment, furnishing an apartment, or storage of your belongings over summer breaks.
- It does not factor in taxes on an assistantship stipend. You also will not receive your assistantship as soon as you arrive as the paperwork will take 1-2 weeks.
- It does not include emergencies or unplanned expenses such as medical bills, car repairs, or flight changes.
- You need a backup fund to avoid debt.
- It is important for you to be prepared as few options exist for additional financial support once you arrive in the United States.

### **Signatures on your DCF must be in wet ink:**

- We cannot accept a typed name, an e-signature, or initials (it must be a full signature) from your sponsor.
- We will accept signatures written in languages other than English.

### **About your supporting financial documents:**

- See chart above for the estimated minimum amount required for us to issue your I-20.
  - You can show more funding if you wish. You cannot show less.
- Financial documents must be dated within one year of your program start date.
- We take the accuracy of your financial documents very seriously.
  - This is a verifiable statement that you can support yourself financially for at least the first 2 semester that you are here. You may be required to present the same documents at the Embassy during your visa appointment. If we have concerns about the authenticity of your documents, we may not be able to issue your I-20.
- The bank statement or letter from a bank must be in English and on bank letterhead or official bank paper.
- If the balance is not listed in US dollars (USD), it should clearly indicate the currency used.
- Any scanned copies must be of good quality and legible.
- If your sponsor is a company/business, the company must provide a letter on official letterhead, signed by the CEO or other signing authority, indicating that company will sponsor you. The same individual must sign and print the company name in Part 2 of the DCF Form.
- If your sponsor is a U.S. Citizen/Permanent Resident, they should send the original I-134 and supporting financial document(s) to you to submit to the U.S. Embassy as part of your visa application process. The form can be downloaded from <http://www.uscis.gov>.
- If you are submitting retirement funds as proof of funds for your I-20, we will need to verify that there is sufficient funding remaining once any early withdrawal penalties have been paid.
- Unacceptable supporting financial document(s) include, but not limited to,
  - Proof of income/paystubs
  - House or property deed
  - Credit card statement or line of credit
  - Tax returns