

Declaration & Certification of Finances (DCF) for Students Starting in Fall (August) 2026 only

*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 this DCF form and all supporting documents to your portal so we can issue your I-20.
 - Law students may email their documents to immigration@uakron.edu.

Required 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. If you choose not to complete this form, you may need to email us to let us know you have sent us your documents. This may slow down issuance of 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

Please allow at least 3-5 business days for us to issue your I-20. It may take longer at busy times.

For quick I-20 issuance be sure to avoid these common mistakes:

- Complete the immigration information form and match the documents you submit online to the documents you indicate on that form.
- Don't forget to sign your DCF, and have your sponsor/s sign too (see exceptions below)
- Remember to include the \$ amount to indicate the funding that you and/or your sponsors will provide. We do not assume we can show all funds available in a bank account on your I-20.
- Don't forget the letter and financial statements 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. Remember to check page 4 for additional details about acceptable documents.

- ☐ 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.
 - If your sponsor is a business, we also require a letter, along with this DCF signed by a representative of the company and financial documents showing they can support you financially.
- ☐ I have a scholarship (Government, athletic, academic, etc)
 - The scholarship provider does not need to sign part 2.
 - If the scholarship is not issued by the University of Akron, please provide a copy of the scholarship details.
- ☐ I have a graduate assistantship (teaching or research) 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. Your final cost of attendance may be higher or lower than this.
- 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, as required by your programs. See below.

Education Level	Tuition & Fees	Living Expenses	Health Insurance	Personal Expenses & Books	Total
Undergraduate	\$21,939	\$13,575	\$1,411	\$3,529	\$40,454
Graduate (taking classes in Spring and Fall)	\$16,955	\$14,402	\$1,411	\$3,529	\$36,297
Graduate (taking classes in Spring, Summer, & Fall as required by some programs)	\$18,795	\$19,203	\$1,411	\$4,705	\$44,114
Law	\$28,535	\$14,402	\$1,411	\$3,529	\$47,877
English Language Institute*	\$10,750	\$13,575	\$1,411	\$3,529	\$29,265

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 \$4,249 per dependent (\$5,665 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
 - ☐ 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). We do not need a birth certificate for your spouse, unless they do not have a passport.
- ☐ If bringing your child(ren), submit a copy 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 from the University. You 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.*
- We strongly recommend you bring additional funds to support yourself, even if you have an assistantship, and even if you choose not to include funding over the cost of attendance on your I-20.
- It is important for you to be prepared as few options exist for additional financial support once you arrive in the United States.
- Plan ahead.

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 semesters 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, as well as financial statements indicating they have sufficient funding to support 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 are not limited to:
 - Proof of income/paystubs
 - Tax returns
 - House or property deed
 - Credit card statement or line of credit
 - Screenshots of bank accounts