

Financial Documentation

Documentation of available funds for a full academic year or two semesters, including tuition, fees, and living expenses is required before the University of South Florida can issue you an I-20 or DS-2019. Therefore, we encourage you to submit your financial documents during the application process. If you do not, your application will still be processed, but your I-20 or DS-2019 will not be issued until you have provided sufficient evidence of financial support.



If you have already been admitted to a degree program at USF, read the information below and then go to [iStart](#) to upload your documents now.

Criteria for Financial Documentation

When gathering your financial documentation to upload, please keep the following items in mind:

- Funds must be available liquid assets
- Financial documentation must be legible
- You must provide the specific amount and currency of available funds, though funds on bank statements, etc., do not need to be shown in U.S. dollars
- All documents must be current; documents older than one year from the time of the student's intended enrollment cannot be accepted

Although proof of funding is required for only the first year, you are expected to fund your studies for the duration of your program. When adding up your expenses, remember that you should not look to employment as a means of support. Not only do you need authorization before you can start a job, you are limited in the [number of hours you can work](#).

Acceptable Proof of Financial Support

- Bank statements or bank letters indicating required currency amount in liquid asset form (cash deposits, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, etc.), translated into English
- Investment statements indicating liquid assets
- Scholarship or award letters
- Sponsorship letter from your government, home institution, or employer
- Offer letter for USF Funding (scholarship, fellowship, or assistantship)

Unacceptable Financial Documents

- Chartered accountant statements
- Payroll reports/expected income
- Tax statements
- Property assessments
- Statements regarding property, jewelry, cars, and other non-liquid assets

- Bank statements lacking currency amounts
- Insurance policies
- Investment/retirement accounts not currently available
- Other statements of non-liquid assets

If the award from your government, sponsor, home institution, employer, or USF does not completely cover your incurred costs, you will be responsible for all additional expenses associated with your stay in the United States.

Information about Personal or Family Funding

If full or partial funding is coming from personal sources (e.g.: family or friends), each person who will provide your financial support must:

- Sign the [Affidavit of Support](#).
- Provide you with an official bank statement(s). The name on the affidavit must match the account holder on the bank statement(s)
- If bank statement is in a company name, then a bank letter must be provided confirming that the sponsor is an account holder of the company

Bank statements must be in English or include an official English translation. The name of the account holder, date of the statement, the amount of available funds, and the type of currency should be on the statement.

Information about Financial Support from a Sponsoring Agency, Government, or Non-USF Source

If you will be receiving support from a scholarship agency, government, home institution, or employer, you will need to provide an official scholarship/award letter which explains the terms and the amounts of the award in U.S. dollar amounts. The letter must contain:

- The name of the student being given the award
- The amount of money available for each year of study including the terms of support (i.e., a breakdown of what the award is intended to cover: tuition, fees, living expenses, dependents, etc.)
- The duration of the award (including beginning and ending dates)
- The degree and major field of study for which the award is available
- Confirmation that the award is applicable for study at the University of South Florida

All documentation should be dated less than 12 months before the time you intend to enroll.