Washington College

Certification of Finances and Application for a Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for F-1 Student Status)

What is a Form I-20 and why do you need one?

A Form I-20 is a government form that certifies that you are eligible for F-1 Student Status. This certificate of eligibility is needed to establish F-1 status in the United States and required to obtain an F-1 student visa. Obtaining a Form I-20 also means that (1) you are or expect to be a "bona fide" student; (2) you meet our admissions requirements to be fully admitted; (3) you will pursue a full course of study; (4) you proved to us that you have enough money to study and live in the United States without working illegally or suffering from poverty. You need a Form I-20 to obtain an F-1 Student visa or status, or to keep lawful F-1 status when transferring or changing schools within the U.S.

Rules to Obtain a Form I-20

1. You must be a "bona fide" (good faith, real) student, accepted to a full-time program of study.
2. You must prove to us that you can support the costs of living and studying in the United States for every year of your program of study at Washington College. This is required by the U.S. government in order to issue the Form I-20.
3. Do not expect that you will be able to work in the U.S. to help meet your annual costs. On-campus employment is limited, competitive, and never guaranteed; off-campus employment for nonimmigrants is strictly controlled and monitored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
4. Review our school's estimated annual costs for international students contained in the following pages of this application. This is the amount that you must prove that you can offer for every year in your program of study. (The program of study for a bachelor's degree is four years.)
5. These requirements are not negotiable. They represent a modest, average budget that does not include luxuries of any kind. We strongly recommend that you budget at least 10% more, if possible. Insufficient monetary resources will make it difficult to successfully complete a degree program. Students and their families should look closely at the cost of living and studying at Washington College and make careful plans to be sure that all needs will be met.
6. You should expect annual increases in tuition, health insurance, and living costs and budget accordingly.
7. Sometimes, we may have to ask you to give us more proof of your funding -- perhaps more than once. The U.S. government requires that we be sure, to the best of our ability, that you will have enough financial support during your stay.
8. Complete the "Application for a Form I- 20" which begins on page 4 of this document.
9. Have your sponsor(s) complete the sponsor's affidavit and attach the required evidence. You may re-print additional copies of the affidavits and distribute them to multiple sponsors, if necessary.

10. Submit your application for a Form I- 20, sponsor's affidavit, and evidence to us electronically by emailing them to Alice Schaaf, Assistant Director for International Student Recruitment at aschaaf2@washcoll.edu. Do not send originals or send anything by mail. Keep the originals to take to your visa interview.

Funding Sources

Your funding can come from any combination of sources in the U.S. or abroad:

1. **Funds from "sponsors"** (parents, relatives, friends, organizations). You may have as many sponsors as you need. Sponsors may provide you with support in the form of money and/or room and board.
    - It is highly recommended that at least part of your financial support come from your home country. This helps when you apply for your student visa.
    - A sponsor should promise only as much money as he or she is capable of giving you. Some sponsors believe that the more money they promise, the easier it will be to get your Form I-20. A sponsor should promise only what he or she intends to give and only as much as can be afforded.
    - If a sponsor (family member) will be providing your room and board (i.e., off-campus housing and meals) free of charge, an additional form will need to be completed to collect their information. Refer to the Housing section of the website for limited eligibility to live off campus. Please email residential_life@washcoll.edu to request further information about eligibility and the appropriate form.
2. **Personal funds** come from your own (student's) resources, not those of anyone else. If your parents put money in your bank account, we will ask you to submit the evidence required of sponsors. Unless you have enough cash to support yourself for your entire program of study or can prove other sources of personal income, you will need a sponsor with an income sufficient to support you.
3. **Funds from Washington College**, such as an academic scholarship or need-based aid.

Submitting Evidence

Complete the "Application for a Form I-20" (beginning on page 4 of this document) and submit it with all the required evidence of funding directly to the Washington College by emailing all documents to aschaaf2@washcoll.edu. Do not mail original documents, as you will need them for your visa interview. All documents you give us must be:

1. Less than six months old

2. In English

Evidence Required

Sponsors of Cash Support:

1. Sponsor's Affidavit and proof of annual cash support. This form may be copied for each sponsor. All questions must be answered.

2. Proof of Income

Individual sponsor

- Pay stubs of three consecutive months within the last six months;
  and
- Bank statements of the same three consecutive months within the last six months (the account in which the pay is deposited)

Company sponsor

- Business registration (showing that sponsor is owner of the company), licenses, and bank statement for the last six months

3. Bank Statement (a monthly statement of balances and deposits) in the name of the sponsor only

If there is no proof of income provided WITH a bank statement, the bank statement balance will be totaled and divided by the number of years in your program of study to determine the amount available to you for each year.

The income of a company is not the personal income of the owner of the business and will not be accepted as proof of income. The owner/sponsor must still provide proof of personal income.

If a bank statement is in the name of more than one person, each individual must submit an affidavit of support.

We cannot accept bank statements that do not specify monthly balances and deposits.

Sponsors of Free Room and Board:

1. Sponsor's Affidavit and Proof of free room and board

2. Proof of income: any of the following with most recent pay stub

- Income tax returns or receipts
- Bank/investment statements for three consecutive months from within the last six months

3. Copy of property lease, deed, rent receipts, or utility bill to show residency

Personal Funds:

Bank/asset statement (monthly statement of balances and deposits) in your name; three consecutive months from within the past six months

School Funds:

Copy of your award letter or contract stating exactly what you will be receiving and for how long

Application for a Form I-20

Personal Information

1. Name in Passport:

Family/Last Name First/Given Name Middle Name

2. Date of Birth: Month _____Day _____ Year _____

3. Gender in Passport : Male ___Female ___

4. Country of Birth: _____

5. Country of Citizenship: _____

6. Country of Permanent Residence: _____

7. Permanent Address in Home Country:

House Number and Street Name

City Province/Territory Postal code Country

8. Email Address: _____

9. Telephone Number: _____

10. Intended Major(s): _____

11. Dependents' Information:

___I do not have dependents who will be accompanying me to the United States.

___I have dependents who will be accompanying me to the United States. (If dependents will be accompanying you to the U.S., an additional form will need to be completed to collect their information. Only your spouse and children can accompany you to the United States.)

Statement of Financial Support

The cost of attendance at Washington College for the 2027-2028 academic year is as follows:

Tuition & Fees	$58,124
Fees	$2,396
Housing	$9,724 (double room)
Food	$9,602 (unlimited meal plan)
Mandatory Health Insurance (estimated) --	$4,500
Total Estimated Direct Cost of Attendance – (billed to student)	**$84,346**
Total Estimated Indirect Cost of Attendance -- (not billed to student, including transportation, personal costs, books, etc.)	**$4,226**

The sum calculated at the bottom of this page must be equal to or greater than the total of both direct and indirect costs combined, $88,572. This amount must be available for each year of study and documented as described in the following pages. This is the same standard that the U.S. Embassy or Consulate will use to determine your financial ability while reviewing your F-1 visa application. You will be billed for the direct costs, but showing the additional funding indicates that the student can afford living expenses. ***Please place a check mark next to each source of funding you will use, and indicate how much will be provided to you from this source for each year of university***.

Source(s) of Support

_____ Personal funds: US$_____
The amount available to me from my own resources every year.

_____ Funds from Washington College, renewable every year if academic criteria is met. US$_____

_____ Funds from a Sponsor, to be given to me every year. US$_____
Sponsor's name: _____

_____ Funds from a Sponsor, to be given to me every year. US$_____
Sponsor's name: _____

_____ Funds from a Sponsor, to be given to me every year. US$_____
Sponsor's name: _____

Total amount available each year (must equal to or exceed US$88,572) US$_____

The following documents are attached to prove my financial responsibility:

Student's Personal Documents

_____Investment statement(s) (3 consecutive months/1 quarter, within 6 months of date of sending)*

_____ Official bank Statement(s) (3 consecutive months, within 6 months of date of sending, with bank signature or seal)*

*if both a bank statement and investment statement are sent, they must cover the same three months

Sponsor's Documents

Both an Affidavit of Support AND proof of investment or a bank statement must be attached.

_____Affidavit of Support

_____Investment statement(s) (3 consecutive months/1 quarter, within 6 months of date of sending)*

_____ Official bank Statement(s) (3 consecutive months, within 6 months of date of sending, with bank signature or seal)*

_____ Pay stubs (3 consecutive months, within 6 months of date of sending)

*if both a bank statement and investment statement are sent, they must cover the same three months. Likewise, paystubs must be accompanied by bank statements of the same three consecutive months.

If a sponsor will be providing your room and board (i.e., you will be living with a sponsor off campus) free of charge, an additional form will need to be completed to collect their information. Refer to the Housing section of the website for eligibility to live off campus, which is very limited. Please email aschaaf2@washcoll.edu to request further information about eligibility and the appropriate form.

Sponsor's Affidavit of Annual Cash Support and Proof of Financial Capability Instructions

By completing this affidavit, you are swearing to the U.S. government that you will provide this student with a specific amount of money, from your own financial resources, for every year he or she is going to live in the United States while studying at Washington College. You are also proving that you can afford the support you are promising with the documentary evidence you have attached.

Before signing the affidavit, it is important to understand that you are making a financial commitment to the student that should not be broken. Sponsors who fail to provide the promised support force students to drop out of school. Do not expect that the student will be able to help support the costs through employment. Employment for nonimmigrants is strictly controlled by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and is very limited.

Fill this form out in English. Promise only the amount of money you are able to give. Sign and date the affidavit. Attach the supporting evidence listed below. The affidavit will not be accepted without the required supporting evidence. Give the student the original documents and have him or her submit them electronically with the Application for a Form I-20. The student will need to keep the originals to present to the consul at the visa interview.

Supporting evidence required:

1. Proof of ability to pay (any of the following):
    - Income tax returns or receipts or pay stubs from three consecutive months within the past six months
    - Investment statements for three consecutive months within the last six months
    - Official bank statements for three consecutive months within the last six months (must be the same three months as pay stubs)
2. Bank statement (monthly statement of balances and deposits) in your name (student or sponsor) only. If another person's name appears on your bank statement, that person also must complete a separate affidavit. If the bank statement is in the name of your business and does not include your name, you must also include a letter of incorporation showing you are the owner of the business, or other ownership documentation, as well as a letter on the business letterhead indicating what funds are approved from the business account to be used for the student's use.

SPONSOR'S AFFIDAVIT OF ANNUAL CASH SUPPORT AND PROOF OF FINANCIAL CAPABILITY

I, _____ (sponsor name), promise that I can and will give no less than U.S. $_____

in cash for every year of study at Washington College to _____(student name).

My relationship to the student is parent/family/sponsor (circle one)

Sponsor Address: _____

_____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

The following person(s) are fully or partially dependent upon me for their support. Do not include the student named above.

Name	Relationship to Me	Age

Name of my Employer: _____

Annual Salary in U.S. Dollars: _____

Other Income in U.S. Dollars: _____

Proof of investment/bank statements/income are attached: Yes____No____

I swear that the information I have provided above is true and correct.

Signature of Sponsor _____Date_____

Acknowledgment of Understanding

I have read and understand all of the information in this document, including the rules to obtain a Form I-20, acceptable funding sources, and evidence required of my funding sources. To the best of my knowledge, the information I have provided is true. I understand that misrepresentation of facts on this application and the supplemental documentation I have provided will be cause for refusal of issuance of a Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status.

Student Name	Student Signature	Date