



Acceptable Financial Documentation

To qualify for your I-20/DS-2021, you must document each source of your financial support stated on the I-20 request form according to the instructions below. Your financial support must equal or exceed the estimated budget for your program.

The most common issues with I-20 requests are caused by unacceptable or insufficient funding sources.

Requirements of all financial documentation:

We accept the financial documentation listed in the chart below. However, all financial documents must:

- Be easy to read and understand
- Bank/financial statements should be comprised of as few pages as possible (indicating a summary of accounts) and do not list multiple pages of personal expenses
- You must provide translations of documents not in English
- The statements must indicate the amount and currency (e.g. USD, YWD, CNY, EUR)
- Contain specific numerical values indicating amount of funds in each account
- Copies, screenshots, and web printouts are acceptable
- Documents must be dated within the past six months
- Per regulation, we accept the types of financial documents listed below
- Please also review **unacceptable funding types** below before submitting your documents

NOTE: If you submit incorrect financial documents or documents showing insufficient funding your I-20 request will be rejected. Please review the following information carefully. To prevent delays, make sure to submit concise, easy to understand documents that fit into the categories below.

Acceptable Types of Financial Documentation

Source of Funds	Documentation Required
Scholarship funding (private business, government, etc.)	<p>Letter from the agency or organization awarding the scholarship indicating your name, date, name of the organization, and award amount.</p> <p>If you are receiving funding from a private business (e.g. employer, sponsor, etc.), a dated scholarship letter showing you as the recipient, award amount, and name of the organization is required.</p>
Personal funds or personal loan	Bank or financial statement dated within the past 6 months showing your name, date, the current balance, and type of currency. Please do not upload multiple pages of your account/expense history.

Source of Funds

Documentation Required

If you are using private loan funding, include your loan award letter indicating amounts, name, and date.

Family/friend funding for funds not in your name (e.g. parents, spouse/partner, friends) require the below two documents.

1. Cooper's sponsor AFV letter: a letter from the sponsor(s) indicating the precise amount of the financial support
2. Accompanying the sponsor's letter must be a bank or financial statement dated within past six months showing your sponsor's name, date, the current balance, and type of currency. Please do not upload multiple pages of the account or expense history, just a balance summary showing currently available funds.

Review our unacceptable funding sources below to avoid application delays.

Unacceptable funding sources

Unacceptable financial documentation includes:

- Property (e.g., a house, gold, or land) or certificates showing the value of property or proposed sale of such property
- Health/life insurance accounts, retirement or retirement insurance accounts, other "insurance" accounts
- The value of a business or financial statement of a business/company
- Credit card statements or "line of credit" documents
- Documents more than six months old, including timed deposit certificates with future maturity dates
- Documents that do not clearly state the account holder's name, financial institution name, currency, or type of account

Common Mistakes and Errors

Submitting unacceptable, incorrect, or incomplete documentation will result in your I-20 request being rejected and you will have to resubmit. To ensure speedy processing of your application, make sure that your funding is clear, easy to understand, and meets all criteria listed above.

- Additional clarification needed when multiple accounts and funding sources are used—be clear and concise
- Sponsor letter missing when account that is not in your name
- Type of currency missing from account documents
- Account documents dated more than six months in the past
- Any financial documentation missing specific amounts and numbers
- Account documents are not in English and not annotated
- Funding is insufficient—funding must meet or exceed the exact amount listed on the I-20 request
- Private sponsors or fellowship letters missing award amount
- Unacceptable documentation, e.g., healthcare funds, property deeds, insurance policies, etc.