

2025-2026

# Certification of Financial Responsibility (CFR)

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requires non-immigrant students (i.e., those on F-1 visas/DS-2019) to verify that they will have funds to pay for their educational, living, and other expenses while studying in the U.S.

## Instructions:

- Complete, review, and sign this form.
- Upload the completed CFR, passport information page, and supporting financial documents as PDF files.

Please note: ALL documents must be in English or Spanish.

### Please select the reason for I-20/DS-2019 issuance:

☐ Initial Request    ☐ Request of Extension    ☐ Re-entry after Status Violation    ☐ Update on Current I-20/DS-2019

Name as listed in your passport:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Family/Surname/Last Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Given/First)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Middle - if applicable)

UTRGV ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month/Day/Year)

Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

### Students: Initial I-20/DS-2019 Request (please answer below):

Admitted for Semester:

☐ Fall    ☐ Spring    ☐ Summer I    ☐ Summer II

Academic Level:

☐ Bachelor    ☐ Master    ☐ Doctorate    ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Program/Major: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, what is your current Visa Status? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be transferring your SEVIS record from another U.S. school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes/Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Dependent(s) Information:

List the following information for all dependents who need immigration documents issued by ISS. *Please note that a dependent is defined as your spouse and or child.*

- ☐ I do not plan to bring any dependents with me.
- ☐ My dependent(s) will accompany me on my initial entrance to the United States. Please list them below:

| Last Name | First Name | Date of Birth | Country of Citizenship | Country of Birth |
|-----------|------------|---------------|------------------------|------------------|
|           |            |               |                        |                  |
|           |            |               |                        |                  |
|           |            |               |                        |                  |

Financial Information:

**F-1 Student:** the estimated minimum expenses for 2025-2026 are listed below. The information below is valid for one year from signature. Estimates include tuition and fees for one academic year and 12 months of living expenses. Summer tuition is not included (add amounts in the gray column if beginning in summer). The cost of tuition is subject to change without notice. When computing your expenses, remember that you should only expect employment as a means of support if an offer of an academic appointment (teaching or research assistantship) accompanies graduate admission. Although proof of funding is required for the first year only, you are expected to fund your studies for the duration of the degree program. Financial aid is generally not available to new international students, and financial assistance to continuing students is limited.

**J-1 Student:** Adequate funding is US\$ 2,500 per month for the duration of your stay. Documentation must be in letters from a financial institution, government funding, or a bank statement showing the required dollar amounts available. These documents must be current and, at most, three months from the beginning of the initial school semester.

**J-1 Scholar:** To participate in the Exchange Visitor Program at UTRGV, you must have a minimum of \$2,000 per month plus \$500 for each dependent that will accompany you. For instance, if you plan to stay at UTRGV for six months, provide your funding, and will be accompanied by your spouse then you will need to upload evidence of a minimum of \$15,000. Examples of proof of funding are a bank statement, a letter of support from your home institution, proof of a scholarship, a U.S. or foreign organization, or proof of a national/international grant.

**Health Insurance:** F-1 and J-1 students enrolled at the University must have medical insurance compliant with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act at a Gold Level or higher. For this reason, enrollment in the UT Student Health Insurance Plan is automatic for non-Mexican nationals at the time of registration, and the cost of the policy is included in the student’s tuition and fee bill.

**J-1 Scholars Health Insurance:** Program participants and their dependents are required to have medical insurance coverage with the following minimum benefits [22 CFR 62.14]. Medical benefits of at least \$100,000 per accident or illness, Repatriation of remains for \$25,000, Expenses associated with the medical evacuation of the exchange visitor to his or her home country for \$50,000, A deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.

## Financial Documentation Requirements:

| Requirement                                | Details  |
|--|--|
| <b>Bank Statements</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide an official, dated bank statement from checking and savings accounts.</li> <li>- Must include the account holder's name, date, account type, balance, and currency type.</li> <li>- Certificates of deposit (CDs) that have reached maturity or will reach maturity before the start of the student's first semester.)</li> </ul> |
| <b>Investment Accounts</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May be accepted only if evidence of liquidity is provided.</li> <li>- A written statement from the investment institution on letterhead must state the amount of liquid funds.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Loan Sanction Letters</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Must be on the official letterhead of the issuing bank or institution.</li> <li>- Indicate whether the loan is sanctioned, in-principle sanctioned, or approved.</li> <li>- Include the principal amount of the loan.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Account Accessibility and Liquidity</b> | - All accounts must be easily accessible and consist of liquid assets.   |
| <b>Language Requirements</b>               | - All documents must be in English or Spanish.   |
| <b>Employer Sponsorship</b>                | - Submit an official letter from the sponsor's employer on company letterhead.   |
| <b>Business Sponsorship</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Submit an official sponsorship letter on the company's letterhead.</li> <li>- The letter must clearly state the amount of financial support being provided.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Document Currency and Validity</b>      | - All supporting documents must be dated within three (3) months of submission.  |
| <b>Sponsorship Verification Letters</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Letters for scholarships, fellowships, or assistantships must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exact dollar amount of support (in U.S. dollars).</li> <li>• Dates covered for one academic year.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
| <b>Dependents</b>                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If bringing dependents, demonstrate financial capability to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5,000 per year for a spouse.</li> <li>• \$3,000 per year for each child.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |

### Important Note:

Credit cards, life insurance policies, business bank accounts, retirement accounts, and/or pension funds are NOT acceptable forms of financial proof. Please estimate your expenses according to your specific Visa type before submission.

### Estimated Expenses for F-1 Student:

As an international student, you must show proof of funding for one academic year in order to receive your Form I-20. The university calculates the estimated expenses each year, and this is the standard amount that all F-1 international students must show. This amount will likely be different from your actual expenses. For students living at UTRGV dorms, the approximate cost of living per academic year is **\$10,314**. For students living off campus, the approximate cost of living per academic year is **\$2,790**. (academic year is Fall and Spring semester only)

For the total estimated cost of attendance, please visit:  
<https://www.utrgv.edu/ucentral/paying-for-college/cost-of-attendance/index.htm>

### Estimated Expenses for J-1 Student

As an international J-1 student, you must show proof of funding for your duration of stay in order to receive your Form DS-2019. The university calculates the estimated expenses each year, which is the standard amount that all J-1 international students must show. This amount will likely be different from your actual expenses. Once you enroll in classes, applicable fees (housing/insurance) are automatically added to your account, and you will be required to meet payment deadlines.

#### Actual Expenses

- Determined after you enroll.
- It can vary based on your personal living expenses.
- Paid through the Bursar's Office

#### Estimated Expenses

- A standard estimate used for issuing immigration documents
- Will not be adjusted for your individual situation, such as lower living expenses due to sharing housing.
- The amount shown on your Form DS-2019, used for visa application

**Adequate funding is US\$1500 per month for the duration of your stay.**

For detailed estimated costs, please visit:

<https://www.utrgv.edu/iss/j-1-and-nse-exchange-programs/j-1-student-scholar-financial-requirements/index.htm>

### Estimated Expenses for J-1 Scholar (Self-Funded)

To participate in the Exchange Visitor Program at UTRGV, you must have a minimum of **\$2,000 per month plus \$500 for each dependent** that will accompany you.

Please provide information about all family members who plan to come to the United States with you. You will need an additional \$6,000 annually or \$500 monthly for each dependent. If UTRGV will hire you then you do not need to upload funding information.

### Source of Financial Support — Check all that apply.

- ☐ Personal and/or family savings. A bank official's signature below OR an attached bank letter/statement is required if the applicant will be supported by personal or family savings. If you have more than one family sponsor, all sponsors must sign the Sponsor's Statement of Financial Support CFR indicating the amount of financial support they will provide.
- ☐ Assistantship/Fellowship from UTRGV. Print the name of the department and attach a copy of the award letter.
- ☐ Government/Company/Organization Sponsor. Print the name of the sponsor and attach a signed copy of the sponsorship letter:
- ☐ Other, i.e., Loans, investments, and CDs (Specify and attach a signed certification). \_\_\_\_\_

### Sponsor's Statement of Financial Support:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of sponsor), guarantee that the sum amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ USD will be available to the student named above for the first academic year at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. A comparable amount of money will be available for the student's educational program. I understand this statement is being used to issue a U.S. government document.

Parent/Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of Sponsor to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sponsor

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of sponsor), guarantee that the sum amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ USD will be available to the student named above for the first academic year at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. A comparable amount of money will be available for the student's educational program. I understand this statement is being used to issue a U.S. government document.

Parent/Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of Sponsor to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sponsor

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of sponsor), guarantee that the sum amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ USD will be available to the student named above for the first academic year at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. A comparable amount of money will be available for the student's educational program. I understand this statement is being used to issue a U.S. government document.

Parent/Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of Sponsor to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Certification:**

I certify that the information provided on this form is correct and complete. If any of the information changes before my enrollment at the University, I will immediately notify ISS. I understand that making false or fraudulent statements within this Certification of Financial Responsibility may result in disciplinary action.

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_