What is Financial Proof?

Financial proof or guarantees are financial document(s) submitted by a prospective student that proves that the cost of attendance for a student’s specific program is able to be adequately met. The amount of financial proof required is based on the estimated cost of attendance for the student’s degree level and program. Please note that the financial proof required is not indicative of what a student may actually pay to attend West Virginia University; however, financial proof to show that one can meet the estimated cost of attendance is required by U.S. federal regulations in order to obtain an I-20.

Please see the charts below in order to determine the amount needed for proof of financial ability to meet expenses. On the chart, please find your college that maintains your program of study. A breakdown of established expenses and the overall total of financial proof needed is included for each college.

The cost of attendance for students in undergraduate degree programs can be found here: http://internationalservices.wvu.edu/?go=UGEstCostSheet

The cost of attendance for students in graduate/professional degree programs can be found here: http://internationalservices.wvu.edu/?go=GradEstCostSheet

Financial proof must be liquid assets. This means that the funds from this asset must be readily available and retain their value. Examples of acceptable documentation for a financial guarantee can include:

1. A certified letter from a bank/ bank statement showing liquid assets in checking or savings accounts. The statement must be less than six months old and must include the name of the account holder, the name of the bank, and the amount of readily available funds (in U.S. Dollars). If the account is not in your name and a family member, relative, or other sponsor is providing funds, you must also provide our office with a completed affidavit of support form.
2. A letter from a government agency or sponsor to include the name of the prospective student, the name of the government or agency, terms of the sponsorship and the amount of scholarship funds;
3. A PDF letter from a WVU department on departmental letterhead that includes your name, the name of the WVU department, terms of the agreement and the amount of fellowship, grant, or assistantship. This is typically a Graduate Research Assistant/Graduate Teaching Assistantship/Graduate Service Assistantship; Again, please provide this letter as a PDF or similar format; or
4. Letter of confirmation of any scholarship or loan with the dates in which scholarship or loan will apply for and any terms outlined for disbursement.

All documentation submitted as a financial proof/guarantee must be less than six months old, and we encourage that multiple sources of funding be submitted in order to cover cost of attendance. These sources of funding should be uploaded to your student on-boarding request in the documents section. E-mailing this information may cause delays in processing your application. For more information regarding what may or may not constitute as a financial proof/guarantee, please visit the following supplemental websites or reach out to us at isss-students@mail.wvu.edu:


https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/how-prospective-international-students-can-demonstrate-financial-ability