

Cost of Attendance Figures for 2025-2026

Downtown Denver Campus

OVERVIEW

U.S. federal immigration regulations require that all F-1 visa applicants prove they have enough funds for the total estimated cost of attending the university and living in the U.S. for one academic year (nine months for most programs).

J-1 visa applicants must show the total cost of attendance for the program dates on their DS-2019. You can multiply your program's estimated cost by the expected number of years in your program as a starting point. ISSS will provide a more precise estimate once you submit your immigration document request. Please [schedule an ISSS advising appointment](#) or [participate in walk-in advising hours](#) if you have additional questions.

ISSS must collect proof of funding from students requesting immigration documents. The proof of funding must confirm that the student has at least the minimum amount of funding to cover estimated tuition, student fees, and living expenses during the required terms for their program.

This minimum amount is the **estimated cost of attendance** for your program. ISSS must include information about how you plan to cover your estimated cost of attendance on your I-20 or DS-2019. You may also need to provide this proof for your visa interview or change of status application.

These estimated cost of attendance numbers are calculated to meet the I-20 and DS-2019 issuance requirements. These estimates are not a guarantee of what you will pay this academic year or during your program.

The total estimated cost includes both direct expenses, like tuition and fees, and indirect expenses, such as standard estimates for housing, meals, books, supplies, travel, health insurance, and incidental expenses. **Please remember these numbers are an estimate.** Your actual expenses may vary depending on your choices about housing and lifestyle.

Please note that actual costs will likely increase for the 2026-2027 academic year and are otherwise subject to change without notice. Our estimate may not reflect all costs for every program and enrollment situation. **Taking more credit hours may increase the cost of your program.**

Students whose spouse or children will accompany them to the United States as F or J dependents must provide proof of how they will cover each family member's living expenses. Children in an F-2 or J-2 status must be unmarried and under the age of 21. Students in 9-month programs should add \$6,750 per year for each dependent family member. Those in 12-month programs should add \$9,000 per year for each dependent.

PROOF OF FUNDING DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS

The financial document requirements for I-20 and DS-2019 issuance described below align with the U.S. Department of State requirements for granting F-1 and J-1 visas.

Please keep your original documents. You may need them during your F-1 or J-1 visa interview. Canadian and Bermudian students can present their original documents to the immigration official at the port of entry without applying for a visa.

Any document you provide for proof of funding must be less than **six months old** and meet our funding document requirements.

TYPES OF ACCEPTABLE FUNDING AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Types of Funding	Required Documents
Personal Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official Bank Statement or Letter (see the requirements for a bank letter on page 4)• Loan Approval Letter<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Must clearly state that the loan is fully approved or sanctioned○ If not fully approved or sanctioned, must describe outstanding conditions for full approval or sanction
Family or Other Individual Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Member's or Other Individual's Official Bank Statement or Letter (see the requirements for a bank letter on page 4)• Financial Commitment Form completed by each family member or other sponsoring individual
Government or Embassy Sponsorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial Guarantee Letter from Sponsor on official letterhead
Scholarship or Financial Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letter of Scholarship Award<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Must include the amount of the scholarship○ Must state how long you will receive the scholarship (one time, per semester, per year, etc.)• Financial Aid Award Letter from a Department or University Office on official letterhead<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Must include the amount of the financial aid○ Must state how long you will receive the aid (one time, per semester, per year, etc.)○ If covering tuition and fees, must state if the funds will cover health insurance costs○ If funding is based on a student appointment, must include salary or stipend amount

Types of Funding	Required Documents
<p>Employer Sponsorship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed Financial Guarantee Letter from your Employer on official letterhead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must include the amount the employer is pledging to cover ○ Must state how long they will provide the funds (one time, per semester, per year, etc.) ○ Must explain why they are providing the funds ○ Additional financial information may be required if the letter does not meet the requirements.
<p>Other Organization Sponsorship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed Financial Guarantee Letter from the Organization on official letterhead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must include the amount the organization is pledging to cover ○ Must state how long they will provide the funds (one time, per semester, per year, etc.) ○ Must explain why they are providing the funds ○ Additional financial information may be required if the letter does not meet the requirements.

UNACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS AND FUNDING SOURCES

- Any document that is dated **more than six months** before the submission of your Immigration Document Creation Request
- Screenshots or printouts of an online account taken directly from the browser window (a regular monthly statement downloaded from your online account documents *may* be acceptable)
- Investment accounts such as stocks, lines of credit, bonds, retirement accounts, or any other type of investment funds
- Statements of value for property, land, houses, apartments, or other assets
- Salary, wage, or income statements; tax forms; or insurance policies
- Accounts where it is unclear if the funds are currently accessible (additional documents should be provided to clarify this issue)

AN EXAMPLE OF AN ACCEPTABLE BANK LETTER

A letter issued by a bank for immigration document purposes must contain all the information listed below. **The red numbers on the sample bank letter (right)** correspond with each required item in the list below:

(1) The letter is written in English.

You may submit a word-for-word translation with the original language document if the letter is not in English. An official translation is not required; you can complete the word-for-word translation yourself.

(2) The letter is printed on official bank stationery.

(3) The Issue Date is within six months of the student's Immigration Document Creation Request submission date.

(4) The Name of Account Holder

If the bank letter/statement is for an account held by a business or corporation, provide proof that you or your sponsor may withdraw money from the account. Proof can be in the form of an additional statement on the letter or a separate document showing ownership of the business.

(5) The Account Type

(6) The Account Number

(7) The Exact and Current Available Balance

If you do not wish to disclose the exact balance in the account, indicate that the current available balance is equal to or greater than the amount you must document. For example: a letter can state, "...the current available balance is greater than \$53,000 USD."

(8) The Type of Currency

(9) A Statement that funds are current and liquid

(10) A Signature of a Bank Official AND/OR

(11) A Bank stamp

The sample bank letter is on yellow stationery. It features a blue bank logo with a classical building facade. The text includes: 'Bank Name | Bank Address' (1), 'Bank Phone | Email' (2), 'Day, Month, Year' (3), 'To Whom It May Concern:', 'This letter certifies that Sally Sponsor holds a savings account with account number a234. The current available balance is 20,000 Euros.' (4, 5, 6, 7, 8), 'Funds may be withdrawn from this account at any time without penalty.' (9), 'This letter has been issued at the request of Sally Sponsor for the purpose of supporting the educational and living expenses of her son, Joe Student, in the United States.', 'Sincerely,' (10), a blue signature 'Bela' (10), and a yellow circular stamp with a checkmark (11).

COST OF ATTENDANCE ESTIMATES

University of Colorado Denver - Downtown Campus Programs

Estimated costs are for 9 months unless otherwise indicated.

The tuition estimates are based on 12 credit hours per semester for undergraduates, 12-18 credit hours for graduate students in the College of Architecture and Planning, and 6 credit hours for other graduate students (except for the graduate programs with 12-month estimates).

Graduate living expenses are based on the Financial Aid Cost of Attendance numbers. Undergraduate living expenses are based on the Financial Aid Cost of Attendance numbers and the CU Denver Housing and Dining rates.

THE NUMBERS IN THIS TABLE ARE ONLY AN ESTIMATE OF YOUR PROGRAM COSTS.

THEY ARE NOT A GUARANTEE OF YOUR ACTUAL COSTS AND EXPENSES.

THEY ARE ONLY ESTIMATES REQUIRED TO CREATE AN I-20 OR A DS-2019.

School/College/Program	Tuition & Fees	Living Expenses	Books, Insurance & Laptop	Total/Year
Business School (Undergraduate)	\$33,947	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$59,620
Business School (Graduate)	\$21,574	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$47,312
Business School (One-Year MBA – 12-month estimate)	\$60,559	\$27,260	\$5,780	\$93,599
Business School (Executive MBA – 12-month and 30-credit estimate)	\$55,485	\$27,260	\$5,780	\$88,525
Business School (Executive MBA in Healthcare Management – 12-month and 36-credit estimate)	\$51,190	\$27,260	\$5,780	\$84,230
College of Architecture & Planning (Undergraduate)	\$33,146	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$58,819
College of Architecture & Planning (Master of Architecture)	\$56,962	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$82,700
College of Architecture & Planning (Other Master's Programs)	\$47,694	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$73,432
College of Architecture & Planning (PhD in Design and Planning)	\$38,426	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$64,164
College of Arts & Media (Undergraduate)	\$33,069	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$58,742
College of Arts & Media (Undergraduate - Digital Animation)	\$35,589	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$61,262
College of Arts & Media (Graduate)	\$19,995	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$45,733
College of Engineering, Design & Computing (Undergraduate)	\$34,573	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$60,246
College of Engineering, Design & Computing (Undergraduate - Bioengineering)	\$34,694	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$60,367
College of Engineering, Design & Computing (Graduate)	\$21,606	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$47,344
College of Engineering, Design & Computing (Graduate - Bioengineering)	\$21,666	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$47,404
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (Undergraduate)	\$32,702	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$58,375
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (Graduate)	\$19,771	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$45,509

School/College/Program	Tuition & Fees	Living Expenses	Books, Insurance & Laptop	Total/Year
School of Education & Human Development (Undergraduate)	\$32,472	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$58,145
School of Education & Human Development (Graduate)	\$19,682	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$45,420
School of Public Affairs (Undergraduate)	\$32,614	\$20,380	\$5,293	\$58,287
School of Public Affairs (Graduate)	\$19,747	\$20,445	\$5,293	\$45,485
School of Public Affairs (Accelerated MPA – 12-month estimate – Currently Open to J-1 Students Only)	\$29,979	\$27,260	\$5,780	\$63,019

Dependent Living Expenses

If a spouse or child will join you as an F-2 or J-2 dependent, you must provide proof that you can cover each dependent's living expenses.

For each F-2 dependent, include the estimated living expenses for each month you must enroll at CU Denver during your first academic year.

For each J-2 dependent, multiply the estimated monthly expenses by the estimated number of months in your entire degree program. For partial months, please round up to the next whole month.

Estimated Monthly Expenses	\$750
9-Month Estimate	\$6,750
12-Month Estimate	\$9,000