



WINTHROP
UNIVERSITY

Dear Prospective Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Winthrop University's academic programs in the United States.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security requires that, in order to receive a form I-20 for your student visa, you must demonstrate that you have sufficient funding to cover your first year of educational and living expenses in the U.S. For the academic year 2012-2013 undergraduate students and/or their sponsor(s) will need to provide proof of funds equal to **US \$36,500**. Please note that although you are only required to document resources for your first academic year (nine months), you must also be prepared to fund all future years of study at Winthrop University. Your original documentation must be on file with the University before we issue the I-20 form. In addition, a second original must be available for embassy review when you apply for your student visa through a United States embassy or consulate.

Most families find the *Statement of Financial Responsibility and Affidavit of Support* plus an original bank statement or model bank letter (attached) to be the most efficient methods to document finances available for your education. Check with the local U.S. embassy to determine the type of financial guarantee they require. If you choose to use the *Statement of Financial Responsibility and Affidavit of Support*, it must be accompanied by an original bank statement or official bank letter. Official bank letters must be produced on the letterhead of the issuing financial institution. If the account is in the name of an individual who is not the applicant (for example, your parents or a sponsoring agency) the letter must list you, the student, by name. It must state that the account holder (your parents or sponsor) will be responsible for your educational expenses at Winthrop University.

You should ask the financial institution to produce at least two certified original bank statements or letters. Both should be identical and issued no more than six months before your date of admission to the University. The second set of financial documents should be utilized during your student visa interview at the U.S. Embassy. Please note that photocopies cannot be accepted by Winthrop University and may not be accepted by the embassy.

Please contact us if you have questions about the procedure described above.

Sincerely,

The International Center of Winthrop University
international@winthrop.edu
+1 803/323-2133

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY & AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT

Bank Certification and Evidence of Financial Support

In order to receive an I-20 form for your student visa application, you must submit financial documentation showing that you have access to sufficient funds to cover the cost of your studies at Winthrop University. This *Statement of Financial Responsibility and Affidavit of Support*, when accompanied by an original bank statement or official bank letter, is one method of demonstrating access to funds.

Sources and amount of financial support in U.S. Dollars:

The approximate cost of an academic year (two semesters) at Winthrop University is \$36,500 for undergraduates for the 2012-2013 school year. This includes tuition, fees, books, room, meals, health insurance, and personal expenses. The most current information on costs can be found out at www.winthrop.edu/international/costs. If your family accompanies you, an additional \$5,000 per dependent will be necessary. Please list the amount(s) you have available from each of the sources listed below. Note:

- Any scholarships or grants you receive will be deducted from the amount you are required to demonstrate you have.
- If the funds are not in your name, the account holder must complete the *Affidavit of Support*, below.
- Please supply an original bank statement or official bank letter as evidence of each of these funding sources.
- If you are sponsored by a private organization or government agency, provide an official copy of your award.

From parents or self..... \$ _____

Financial aid from government agency, private foundations, bank
or other agency..... \$ _____

Sponsor, other than parents:..... \$ _____

Total support for first year at Winthrop..... \$ _____

(This amount must be at least the total listed at www.winthrop.edu/international/costs)

By signing your name to this form, you certify that the information you have given is a correct statement of the financial arrangements for your studies at Winthrop University.

Signature of applicant

Month/Day/Year

Affidavit of Support

I, _____, *certify that I am able, willing and do promise to provide the*
(Name of Sponsor)

minimum amount of U.S. \$ _____ for tuition, fees, living and personal expenses

of _____, my _____, while a student at Winthrop University.
(Name of Student) (Relationship if any)

Evidence of my financial resources in the form of a bank letter or bank statement accompanies this affidavit.

Signature of Sponsor
Applicant can sign if self-supporting

Month/Day/Year

Model Bank Letter Format

(Please note this letter must be printed on original bank letterhead paper.)

Date

As of **(date)**, **(Name of account holder)** is a customer in good standing of **(Name of Bank)**. To the best of our knowledge and belief, he/she has sufficient funds available to pay the **US \$36,500** educational and living expenses for **(Name of Student)** while she/he is studying at Winthrop University in the 2012-2013 academic year.

Name and Title of Bank Officer

Signature of Bank Officer

Please send the completed letter *(with original signature)* to:

Winthrop University
International Center
218 Dinkins Hall
South Carolina 29733
United States of America
Telephone: +1 803/323-2133