

Colby-Sawyer College

Applying for the F-1 Student Visa



What is an I-20 Form?

An I-20 Form is a U.S. government form that colleges and universities use to certify that accepted students are eligible to apply for an F-1 student visa. It is produced by the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) and is an acknowledgement that your record is in the SEVIS system. The form certifies that you:

- Have been accepted for admission and are pursuing a bachelor's degree as full time student.
- Have proven sufficient financial support to study and live in the U.S. for the duration of your course of study. This includes, but is not limited to: tuition, money for books, living expenses, health insurance and cost of transportation.

How to get your I-20 Form:

- You must be an accepted and deposited student
- Submit the **Annual Financial Requirements Worksheet** and **I-20 Application Form**.
- You must provide supporting financial documentation that demonstrates that you can afford the costs of living and studying in the U.S. for **every year** of your program of study. This is required by U.S. law.

Important Note: Do not expect to work in the U.S. to help meet your annual costs. On-campus employment is limited; off-campus employment is strictly controlled by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

What supportive documents are needed for the I-20 Form?

Supportive documents must be **no more than five months old**, in English and in U.S. dollars or converted into U.S. dollars. Please send photocopies or faxes, **not originals** as you will need the originals for your visa appointment.

- **I-20 Application Form:** Is attached below.
- **Certificate of Finance:** Financial support must be seen for all years of attendance at Colby-Sawyer College. Signatures are required of *ALL* sources of cash support (students, parents, banks, and sponsors if applicable). Fill out all 18 sections on this form. Illegible and incomplete submissions will delay the receiving of your I-20 Form.
- **Bank Statement:** Should be typewritten in English on official bank letterhead, must include the date the letter was issued (must be no more than five months old), statement must have the current balance of account in U.S. dollars, must be signed or stamped by a bank official. If account holder does not wish to disclose the exact amount of their balance the bank can write a letter, stating that the balance exceeds the financial amount needed to cover the cost of study. Account funds must cover the costs for *at least* one year of study, if remaining four years of study cannot be shown, income statement(s) must be submitted.
 - **Important Note:** If a bank statement is not in the student's name or if it is in the name of more than one person, each individual must sign the Certificate of Finance.
 - **Important Note:** Bank statements may not be a self-printed copy of the holders monthly account statement.
- **Income Statement:** Is only required if the bank statement is not sufficient to meet the financial need being promised to cover the costs of study for all four years. If an income statement is going to be used **one** of the following must be provided:
 - A letter on your parent or sponsor's employer's letterhead proving their salary
 - An income tax return or receipts along with two current pay stubs, or
 - An estimate by a bank or private accountant if you/they are self-employed.
 - **Important Note:** If there is no income source then a bank statement or loan must prove that there are reasonably sufficient funds to cover *the entire* program of study (education and living expenses). The entire bank statement will be divided by the number of years of study to determine the amount available to you for each year.
- **Sponsor's Affidavit of Cash Support:** If you are receiving cash support from a sponsor (grandparent, relative, family friend) they are required to fill out the attached Sponsor's Affidavit of Annual Cash Support and prove sufficient funding through bank and/or income statements. This form is attached below.

Annual Financial Requirements Worksheet for 2013-2014

This required worksheet gives the amount that you must prove you can support for every year of your program of study. This financial estimate does not include living costs for the summer or over holiday breaks nor travel to and from your country. It is a modest, "no-extra" budget and it is highly recommended that you bring at least 10 percent more.

Important Note: Plan for annual increases in tuition and living costs of approximately 4-6 percent.

Important Note: The U.S. government requires that we be absolutely sure, to the best of our ability, that you have enough financial support to cover the *full costs* of your four year stay in the U.S.

Tuition \$37,300

Room and Board \$12,500

The cost of on-campus living plus all meals on campus at Colby-Sawyer dining hall
First year students are *required* to live on campus, unless over the age of 23
This is the college's cost estimate for off-campus residents as well

Books and Supplies \$2,000

This is an estimate of what you will spend on the costs of books & supplies for classes

Required Health Care \$900*

All international students are required to have health insurance coverage. In addition, international students must plan for miscellaneous health care fees.

*This is the rough estimate of health insurance for 2013-2014

Estimated total annual costs to attend Colby-Sawyer for one year: \$52,700

Your Statement of Financial Support

How will you support yourself for every year of your program of study?

Please check off your means of support below and indicate how much will be provided or available to you *every year*:

Sources of my support:

- **Student's Personal Funds:**

the amount available to me from my own resources every year:
(total divided by number of years at Colby-Sawyer)

- **Funds from Colby-Sawyer:**

Renewable every year* Scholarship, Early Action Award, Merit, Grants
As seen on your Financial Aid Award as "Total Award"

- **Cash Funds from a sponsor** (family members, friends)

to be given to me every year:

- **Cash Funds from a second sponsor** to be given to me every year:

- **Cash Funds from a third sponsor** to be given to me every year:

Total amount available to me every year of study:

This amount must be the same as or more than Estimated Total Annual Costs to Attend Colby-Sawyer for one year as seen above:

Sponsor's Affidavit of Annual Cash Support and Proof of Financial Capability

What does this affidavit mean?

By completing this affidavit, you are swearing to the U.S. government that you will provide this student with a specific amount of money from your own financial resources for every year he or she is going to study at Colby-Sawyer College and live in the U.S. You are also proving with the documents you have attached that you can afford the support you are promising. Support can also be in the form of providing housing for a student, if this is the case you are still required to fill out the Sponsor's Affidavit of Support. Additionally show room and board costs of \$12,500 as this is the cost determined by Colby-Sawyer to live in the US and is the same for all students.

Before signing this affidavit, you must understand that you are making a financial commitment to the student. It should not be expected that the student will be able to cover educational costs through employment. Employment is strictly controlled by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and is very limited. Completing this form, so that a student can obtain a visa, without the intent to pay your promised amount, is prohibited.

How to complete this form:

- Fill out the Sponsor's Affidavit of Support in English.
- Promise only the amount of support you are able to give.
- Attach the documentary evidence of support explained below.
- Sign the affidavit.

In order to prove that you are financially capable of providing this cash or housing support for *every* year of the student's program, please attach the following documents (documents must be photocopies, scanned images or faxes in U.S. dollars, in English and five months old or less):

- **Bank Statement:** typewritten in English on official bank letterhead, must include the date the letter was issued (must be five months old or less), statement must have the current balance of account in U.S. dollars, must be signed or stamped by bank official. If account holder does not wish to disclose the exact amount of their balance the bank can write a letter, stating that the balance exceeds the financial amount needed to cover the cost of study.
- **Income Statement:** Is only required if the bank statement is not sufficient to meet the financial need being promised to cover the costs of study for all four years. If an income statement is going to be used **one** of the following must be provided:
 - A letter on your employer's letterhead proving your salary
 - An income tax returns or receipts along with two current pay stubs, or
 - An estimate by a bank or private accountant if you are self-employed, with an official signature from the bank.

For assistance with forms please contact:



International Admissions Colby-Sawyer College,
541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257 USA
Tel 1(603) 526 3700
Fax 1(603) 526 3452
international@colby-sawyer.edu

Sponsor's Affidavit of Support

This is my sworn promise of cash support:

I/we _____, promise that I can and will give no less than
Sponsors Name
\$ _____ U.S. dollars **in cash, for every year** of the student's program of study at Colby-Sawyer

College to: _____.
Full Name of Student

My relationship to the student is _____
Grandmother, friend, extended family

My Address is:
Number/Street: _____

City: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

The following persons are fully or partially dependent upon me for their support:

Name	Relationship to me	Age
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Name of employer: _____

Annual Salary: _____ (U.S. Dollars)

Other Income: _____ (U.S. Dollars)

My proof of income and bank statement are attached: _____ Yes _____ No

I swear that the above information I have provided is true and accurate:

Signature of Sponsor Date

Signature of 2nd Sponsor (if your sponsor is married or holds joint bank account) Date