

USC Guidelines for Submitting Proof of Financial Support

The U.S. government requires that all international applicants provide proof of ability to pay tuition and living expenses for themselves and their dependents (if applicable) before an official letter of admission and an I-20 or DS-2019 can be issued.

Requirements for All Financial Documents

- Current date (no earlier than one year before the start of your first term at USC)
- Account holder's name
- Documents from banks, scholarships, etc. must be on official letterhead and include signature/stamp of an administrative officer or official.
- Must state the available final balance/total scholarship amount
- Certified, professional translations for all financial documents not issued in English.
- If account holder is someone other than student, include Sponsorship letter OR Affidavit of Support. The letter must state the account holder and student's name, current date, and relationship between student and sponsor. Alternately, **Form 4: Confidential Statement for Financing Studies at USC** can be submitted in lieu of a sponsorship letter/affidavit.

Types of Financial Support that are Normally Accepted*

- Bank letters/ statements from savings or checking accounts (if a monthly bank statement is provided, only the closing balance of the most recent date will be counted)
- Timed/Fixed deposits or government bonds maturing prior to first term at USC or available for withdrawal at any time
- Solvency certificates and Demat accounts that specify the balance available for withdrawal
- Funds in investment accounts
- Approved educational loans
- Employer and government sponsorships/scholarships
- Provident funds ONLY if document states the amount available for withdrawal
- USC scholarships/assistantships – this documentation will be submitted by your academic department directly to the Office of Graduate Admission

Types of Financial Support NOT Accepted*

- Tax returns
- Salary/payroll statements
- Chartered Accountant portfolio
- Pending or provisional educational loans or scholarship documents
- Retirement funds, pensions, life insurance policies
- Investments in fixed assets such as property, mortgages, jewelry, automobiles, etc.

How to Submit Financial Documents

Documents can be sent as an email attachment in either PDF or JPG format to usci20@usc.edu or faxed to 213-821-3725. Please limit the size of your attachments to 10MB, otherwise it will not be received. Your 10-digit USC ID number must be clearly written on all documents. You will receive a response when your documents have been processed.

* Subject to change. The Office of Graduate Admission will make the final determination as to what constitutes an acceptable financial statement.