

J-1 Scholars: Minimum Financial Requirements for Initial Documents

University of Notre Dame - International Student & Scholar Affairs

The University of Notre Dame (ND) is required by U.S. government regulations to obtain documentation evidencing that individuals requesting J-1 immigration documents have adequate financial resources to provide for their living expenses and the living expenses of any dependents for their J program.

Exchange visitors in J-1 status must be able to demonstrate the availability of funding for a minimum of \$1,633 per month for themselves plus \$700 per month for each accompanying dependent for the duration of their appointment at Notre Dame. A few examples of minimum funding required include:

Appointment Length	Scholar	With one dependent	With two dependents	With three dependents
1 Month	\$1,633	\$2,333	\$3,033	\$3,733
6 Months	\$9,798	\$13,998	\$18,198	\$22,398
9 Months	\$14,697	\$20,997	\$27,297	\$33,597
12 Months	\$19,596	\$27,996	\$36,396	\$44,796

Acceptable Types of Funding Documents (must indicate USD or currency type and rate)

- University funding as documented in the Notre Dame appointment letter
- Financial Verification Letter when support is provided by the U.S. or home government, an international employer, or the scholar's home institution. See note below for specifics.
- Bank Account Verification Letter reflecting account(s) of scholar: This letter should be on official bank letterhead and must include: full name of the account holder, type(s) of account(s), total amount of available funds, and the date that the letter was issued.
- Bank loan approval letter with dates of approval
- Stock or bond that are not part of a retirement plan
- Statements verifying scholar's employment and continued salary while in the J program

Financial Verification Letter

A Financial Verification Letter is required when financial support will be provided by the U.S. or home government, an international employer, or a home institution. The letter must be printed on institutional letterhead in English (or officially translated into English) and include:

- the date the letter was written (and not be older than 6 months)
- the name of the J-1 exchange visitor
- the total amount of funds to be provided to the J-1 scholar during the appointment dates
- the signature of an official institutional representative with the individual's title

Calculating Monthly Amount with Range

Please be mindful that our office must calculate the lowest monthly amount guaranteed within financial certification letters. For example, if the China Scholarship Council will offer a monthly stipend of \$1,300-\$1,700 for one year, we must calculate the minimum guaranteed amount of \$1,300 x 12 as proof of funds for that year. The scholar will be responsible for demonstrating the remaining \$333 per month to meet the minimum J-1 financial certification requirements.