



## Required Financial Documents for Issuance of Form I-20 2025 Academic Year

Before issuing a Form I-20, “Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status”, U.S. regulations require GIA to collect supporting financial documents to show that the student has the ability to pay all program costs and living expenses for the length of the program. Visit the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s [“Study in the States”](https://www.dhs.gov/study-in-the-states) website for more on this requirement.

### Table of Contents: Requirements and Resources

<b>Step 1. Determine the minimum amount of funding required for your program .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Step 2. Gather supporting financial documents .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Step 3. Upload supporting financial documents to GIA’s Applicant Portal .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Contact Information .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Letter of Financial Responsibility .....</b>	<b>4</b>

### Step 1. Determine the minimum amount of funding required for your program

Different programs have different costs. Amounts shown here include published tuition and fees plus estimated living expenses for each program rounded to the nearest 100 USD.

2025 MINIMUM FUNDING REQUIRED PER PROGRAM							
On Campus Program	Months	Carlsbad Campus			New York Campus		
		Tuition and Fees	Est. Living Expenses	Minimum Amount	Tuition and Fees	Est. Living Expenses	Minimum Amount
Graduate Gemologist	7	27133.91	3,900 x 7	<b>\$54,500</b>	27114.53	4,200 x 7	<b>\$56,600</b>
Graduate Diamonds	2	6949.29	3,900 x 2	<b>\$14,800</b>	6938.14	4,200 x 2	<b>\$15,400</b>
Graduate Colored Stones	5	20184.62	3,900 x 5	<b>\$39,700</b>	20176.39	4,200 x 5	<b>\$41,200</b>
Graduate Jeweler	7	27206.91	3,900 x 7	<b>\$54,600</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a
Jewelry Design and Technology	7	26194.87	3,900 x 7	<b>\$53,500</b>	26139.95	4,200 x 7	<b>\$55,600</b>
Jewelry Design	3	9120.79	3,900 x 3	<b>\$20,900</b>	9110.80	4,200 x 3	<b>\$21,800</b>
Comprehensive CAD/CAM for Jewelry	2	7344.74	3,900 x 2	<b>\$15,200</b>	7316.86	4,200 x 2	<b>\$15,800</b>
DEPENDENT LIVING EXPENSES (estimated per month / per dependent)							
Spouse		Add \$800 per month			Add \$800 per month		
Each child under the age of 21		Add \$400 per month / per child			Add \$400 per month / per child		

**Tuition and Fees.** For details, see the GIA Education Catalog for the campus you will attend.

**Living Expenses.** GIA estimates 3,900 USD per month in Carlsbad and 4,200 USD per month in New York.

**Dependents.** You must add estimated monthly living expenses for any dependents that will accompany you to the minimum amount required for your program.

**Multiple program enrollments.** GIA will calculate living expenses from the start date of your first program to the graduation date of your last program. Contact the international student advisor or other designated school official for the campus you will attend.



## Step 2. Gather supporting financial documents

The combined amount of funding shown in your documents must meet or exceed the minimum amount determined in Step 1. Different documentation is required depending on the source of your funding:

**Self-Funded.** Funds from your own bank accounts

**Private Sponsor.** Funds from a person other than yourself such as a family member or a friend

**Corporate Sponsor.** Funds provided by a corporation, business, or sponsoring agency

**Bank Loan, Government Sponsorship, Scholarship, Grant, or Similar Assistance.** Funds borrowed from a bank, provided by your country's government, or awarded to assist with the cost of attendance.

All documents must be in English or accompanied by a translation done by a translation service.  
GIA accepts copies, but may request further evidence at our discretion.

### **SELF-FUNDING, PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP, AND/OR CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP**

Submit a bank statement or letter from a financial institution. The statement or letter must:

- ✓ **Be from a registered financial institution**
- ✓ **Be on official bank letterhead with the bank's contact information**
- ✓ **Clearly show the name of the individual account holder, business or corporation**
- ✓ **Be dated within the last six months**  
GIA calculates funds from the most current statement or letter date sent; it is not necessary to send multiple copies from the same account.
- ✓ **Show specific available funds and denomination of currency**  
It is acceptable if funds are in a currency other than the US Dollar (USD) and from multiple resources.
- ✓ **Include only liquid assets**  
Liquid assets are funds that can be easily converted into cash such as checking or savings accounts. Non-liquid assets such as property and investments are not acceptable. Examples of unacceptable documents: Tax returns or paychecks, credit card statements, prepayment of tuition, unsecured lines of credit, and documents for non-liquid assets (personal property, real estate, 401K, IRA, stocks, mutual funds, etc.)

If a bank statement or financial letter is from a personal or corporate sponsor and **not from your personal account**, you must submit a Letter of Financial Responsibility.

- Complete the [Letter of Financial Responsibility](#) on the last page of this document and submit it along with the supporting financial documents.
- If you have multiple sponsors, include one letter per sponsor
- If a sponsor submits their own letter, it must include all details listed on GIA's Letter of Financial Responsibility (student's legal name, relationship, sponsor's name, amount and duration of sponsorship, etc.)

### **BANK LOAN, GOVERNMENT SPONSORSHIP, SCHOLARSHIP, GRANT OR SIMILAR ASSISTANCE**

Submit an official letter from the financial institution, organization, or government agency. The letter must:

- ✓ **Be on official letterhead**
- ✓ **Show the student's full legal name**
- ✓ **Show total amount of funds borrowed or awarded and denomination of currency**
- ✓ **Sponsorship duration (e.g., for the duration of their stay in the U.S. while studying at GIA)**
- ✓ **Be signed and dated within the last six months** by the official responsible for funds distribution



### Step 3. Upload supporting financial documents to GIA's Applicant Portal

Upload your documents to the designated field on the online application.

- If you have started an application, sign in to GIA's Applicant Portal at [www.GIA.edu/gem-education/admissions](http://www.GIA.edu/gem-education/admissions) and navigate to the application in progress.
- If you have not started an application, create an account and sign in to GIA's Applicant Portal at [www.GIA.edu/gem-education/admissions](http://www.GIA.edu/gem-education/admissions). Follow the instructions to create, review and submit your application.

### Contact Information

For questions regarding financial support requirements, contact the international student advisor or other designated school official for the campus you will attend.

Carlsbad, California – Headquarters

+1 760 603 4001 | [admissions@gia.edu](mailto:admissions@gia.edu)

New York, New York – Branch of Carlsbad

+1 212 944 5900 | [nyadmissions@gia.edu](mailto:nyadmissions@gia.edu)



# GIA®

## Letter of Financial Responsibility

If a bank statement or financial letter is from a private or corporate sponsor, and **not from your personal account**, submit this letter or a similar document that includes all of the same details with your financial support documentation.

- The letter must be in English or include a certified and dated English translation
- The amount must be listed in U.S. Dollars (USD)
- Submit one letter per sponsor
- The combined amount of funding shown in your financial documents must meet or exceed the minimum funding required for your program(s)

**Complete all sections and submit this page with the financial support.**

Section A: Student Information (to be completed by the student)			
<b>Full Legal Name:</b> _____		<b>Date of Birth:</b> ____ / ____ / ____	
Family Name (Surname)	First Name	Middle Name	(mm/dd/yyyy)
<b>Permanent Home Address:</b>			
_____		_____	
Street			City
_____		_____	
Province/State	Postal Code	Country	
<b>Student Signature:</b> _____		<b>Date:</b> ____ / ____ / ____	
		(mm/dd/yyyy)	
Section B: Sponsor Information (to be completed by the sponsor)			
I will sponsor _____, my _____, in the			
(Full legal name of student listed above)		(Relationship: employee, child, spouse, friend, etc.)	
amount of _____ USD for the duration of their study at the Gemological Institute of America.			
<b>Full Legal Name</b> (Private Sponsor (Family, Friend), Business Owner, President, or CEO):			
_____			
Family Name (Surname)	First Name	Middle Name	
<b>Legal Business Name</b> (Required for Corporate Sponsor Only): _____			
<b>Address</b> (Private Sponsor's (Family, Friend) home address or Corporate Sponsor's business address):			
_____		_____	
Street			City
_____		_____	
Province/State	Postal Code	Country	
<b>Sponsor Signature:</b> _____		<b>Date:</b> ____ / ____ / ____	
Private Sponsor, Business Owner, President, or CEO		(mm/dd/yyyy)	