GIA
SCHOOL OF GEMOLOGY AND JEWELRY ARTS™

Required Financial Documents for Issuance of Form I-20

2027 Academic Year

This document provides the financial documentation requirements and instructions you will need for GIA to issue your Form I-20, *Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status*, for the 2027 academic year. Before issuing a Form I-20, U.S. regulations require GIA to receive, review, and evaluate documentation demonstrating that you have sufficient financial resources to cover your program costs and living expenses for the applicable period of study. Within this document, you will find information about the amount of financial support you must demonstrate, acceptable forms of financial documentation, and the requirements for submitting your documents to GIA.

For additional information about financial requirements for international students, visit the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Study in the States website.

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Step 1 – Determine Your Required Funding

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

2027 Minimum Funding Required Per Program (USD)

On Campus Program	Months	Tuition & Fees	Est. Living Expenses	Minimum Amount	Tuition & Fees	Est. Living Expenses	Minimum Amount
		Carlsbad Campus			New York Campus		
Graduate Gemologist	7	29,862.56	3,684 x 7	$55,700	29,843.17	3,545 x 7	$54,700
Graduate Diamonds	2	7,685.64	3,684 x 2	$15,100	7,674.50	3,545 x 2	$14,800
Graduate Colored Stones	5	22,176.92	3,684 x 5	$40,600	22,168.67	3,545 x 5	$39,900
Graduate Jeweler	7	29,973.82	3,684 x 7	$55,800	29,950.70	3,545 x 7	$54,800
Jewelry Design & Technology	7	29,209.06	3,684 x 7	$55,000	29,141.57	3,545 x 7	$54,000
Jewelry Design	3	9,978.72	3,684 x 3	$21,100	9,968.87	3,545 x 3	$20,700
Comprehensive CAD/CAM for Jewelry	2	8,051.02	3,684 x 2	$15,500	8,023.36	3,545 x 2	$15,200
Dependent Living Expenses (estimated per month / per dependent)							
Spouse		$800 per month			$800 per month		
Children 21 years and under (per child)		$400 per month			$400 per month		

Tuition and Fees

For details, see the GIA Education Catalog for the campus you plan to attend.

Living Expenses

GIA estimates 3,684 USD per month in Carlsbad and 3,545 USD per month in New York.

Dependents

You must add the estimated monthly 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 plan to attend.

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.

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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 one. 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 from a corporation, business, or sponsoring agency.
- Bank Loan, Government Scholarship, 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.

Note: All documents must be submitted in English or accompanied by a certified, dated English translation completed by a professional translation service. GIA accepts copies of supporting documents; however, additional documentation or verification may be requested at GIA's discretion.

Financial Document Requirements

Self-Funding, Private Sponsorship, and Corporate Sponsorship

Submit a current bank statement or letter from a financial institution demonstrating sufficient available funds. Your financial document must meet all of the following requirements:

The bank statement or financial institution letter must:

- ✓ Be issued by a registered financial institution.
- ✓ Be on official bank letterhead and include the financial institution's contact information.
- ✓ Clearly identify the account holder by name. The account may belong to the student, an individual sponsor, a business, or a corporation.
- ✓ Be dated within the last six months.
- ✓ Show the amount of available funds and the currency in which the funds are held.

GIA uses the most current statement or letter provided for each account when determining available funds. You do not need to submit multiple statements for the same account.

Financial documents may be provided in a currency other than U.S. dollars (USD), and funds may be demonstrated using more than one qualifying account or source.

Acceptable Funds must be liquid and readily available to pay educational and living expenses. Examples of acceptable liquid funds include:

- ✓ Checking accounts
- ✓ Savings accounts
- ✓ Other readily accessible cash accounts

The following are not accepted as evidence of available funds:

- Tax returns or paychecks
- Credit card statements
- Unsecured lines of credit
- Prepaid tuition
- Personal or real property
- Retirement accounts, including 401(k) and IRA accounts
- Stocks, mutual funds, or other non-liquid investments

Using a Private or Corporate Sponsor

If any financial document is for an account that is not in your name, you must also provide documentation confirming the account holder's financial sponsorship.

Complete the *Letter of Financial Responsibility* located on the last page of this document and submit it with your supporting financial documents.

- Submit one Letter of Financial Responsibility for each sponsor if you have multiple sponsors.
- A sponsor may provide their own sponsorship letter instead of GIA's form; however, the letter must include all information required by GIA's Letter of Financial Responsibility, including the student's legal name, the sponsor's name, the sponsor's relationship to the student, and the amount and duration of financial support.

Bank Loans, Government Sponsorships, Scholarships, Grants, or Similar Assistance

If your financial support is provided through a bank loan, government sponsorship, scholarship, grant, or similar source, submit an official letter from the financial institution, organization, or government agency providing the funds.

The letter must:

- ✓ Be issued on official letterhead.
- ✓ Clearly identify the student by full legal name.
- ✓ Show the total amount of funding approved or awarded and the currency in which the funds are provided.
- ✓ State the duration of the financial support, including the period for which the funds will be available to support your studies at GIA.
- ✓ Be signed and dated within the last six months by an authorized representative of the financial institution, organization, or government agency.

Step 3 – Upload Your Supporting Financial Documents

Upload all required financial documents through GIA's Applicant Portal as part of your application.

If you have already started an application: Sign in to the Applicant Portal and select your application in progress to upload your supporting documents.

If you have not yet started an application: Create an account and begin your application. Follow the instructions in the Applicant Portal to complete your application and upload the required supporting documents.

GIA Applicant Portal: www.GIA.edu/gem-education/admissions

Questions?

If you have questions about the financial documentation requirements or need assistance with your submission, contact the appropriate campus below.

Carlsbad, California – Headquarters
+1 760 603 4001, ext. 7312 | intladvisor@gia.edu

New York, New York – Branch of Carlsbad
+1 212 944 5900 | nyadmissions@gia.edu

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Letter of Financial Responsibility

If your financial support is provided by a private or corporate sponsor, submit this form or a sponsorship letter containing the same required information with your financial documents. The sponsorship letter must:

- Be in English or accompanied by a certified, dated English translation.
- State the amount of support in U.S. dollars (USD).
- Be completed separately for each sponsor.
- Document sufficient funding, when combined with your other financial documents, to meet or exceed the minimum funding required for your program(s).

Complete all sections below and submit this form with your proof of financial support.

Section A: Student Information
(to be completed by the student)

Full Legal Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____
Family Name (Surname) First Name Middle Name (mm/dd/yyyy)

Permanent Home Address:

_____
Street City

_____
Province/State Postal Code Country

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(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.

Full Legal Name (Private Sponsor (Family, Friend), Business Owner, President, or CEO):

_____
Family Name (Surname) First Name Middle Name

Legal Business Name (Required for Corporate Sponsor Only): _____

Address (Private Sponsor's (Family, Friend) home address or Corporate Sponsor's business address):

_____
Street City

_____
Province/State Postal Code Country

Sponsor Signature: _____ Date: _____
Private Sponsor, Business Owner, President, or CEO (mm/dd/yyyy)

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