Finding Financial Aid for International Students

Statement of Support. Every college/university in the United States requires a Statement of Support in order to process your I-20 Certificate of Eligibility that a student needs in order to secure a visa. (I-196 for Canadians). You may use any combination of scholarships, financial aid, personal savings, parents, or other permitted sources (See the Permitted Financial Sources for a complete list.)

• Work Study. It should also be noted that it is EXTREMELY DIFFICULT for international students to obtain work study in the United States. Any work study award is limited by the government, usually around $1,500 per year and cannot be awarded until arrival, so therefore cannot be used as a source of support.

Sources of financial aid for international students are not limited to these suggestions:

Please note these are just suggestions and you may find more opportunities on your own. Alderson Broaddus makes no guarantee about any of these suggestions:

International Scholarship Search Engines. Scholarships are gifts from some granting organization. These are gifts to you and they do not have to be repaid. However, watch out for scams. Do not apply for a scholarship that requires a processing fee. Here are some scholarship search engines:

• International Students Association: http://www.internationalstudent.com/scholarships/
• International Educational Financial Aid: http://www.IEFA.org
• Fast Web Scholarships: http://www.fastweb.com
• Scholarship Experts: http://www.scholarshipexperts.com

Student Loans. Lots of Americans go this route. These are funds that would have to be repaid after graduation, but you might be able to work some of that debt off by working for the Peace Corp, UNICEF, or other international aid organization.

• International Students Association: http://www.internationalstudent.com/loans/
• Citizens Bank:

Agencies. There are some international recruiting agencies and financial aid agencies. Beware that you know what you are signing!!! Any agency that guarantees any part of your financial aid picture must document that for your Statement of Support.

Sponsors. You are not required to have a sponsor for the F-1 student visa. Please note that Alderson Broaddus will not accept any member of our faculty, staff, or coach to act as a sponsor except for his/her own spouse or child. Your sponsor becomes liable for your debts if you default. If you do use a sponsor:

• Living in the United States as a citizen or immigrant: That person must complete form I-134 and an independent Statement of Support that will be attached to yours.
• Sponsor living outside the United States must complete an independent Statement of Support that will be attached to yours.
Other Ideas:

- **Faith-based sources.** Many denominations, including Catholics and Baptists, with international membership may have scholarships or loans through their organizations. This may be especially true if you or your parents have been missionaries for that denomination. Check with your local clergy or search online. Try [www.scholarship.com](http://www.scholarship.com).

- **Your home government.** Many home national, state, or provincial governments have a variety of financial aid options. This is a very limited list:
  - **Saudi Arabia:** Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission: [www.sacm.org](http://www.sacm.org)
  - **India:** Indian Council for Cultural Relations: [www.iccr.gov.in](http://www.iccr.gov.in)
  - **Canada:**
    - Scholarships for Canadians: [http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/canadian.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/canadian.phtml)
    - Check your provincial listings:
      - **Alberta Students:** http://www.studentaid.alberta.ca/
      - **Manitoba Students:** http://www.gov.mb.ca/educate/sfa/pages/sfaFrontDoor_en.html?
      - **Newfoundland:** http://www.aes.gov.nl.ca/studentaid/
      - **Ontario Students:** [https://osap.gov.on.ca/OSAPPortal](https://osap.gov.on.ca/OSAPPortal)
      - **Quebec Students:** [http://www.mesrs.gouv.qc.ca/aide-financiere-aux-etudes/](http://www.mesrs.gouv.qc.ca/aide-financiere-aux-etudes/) (Note: we can only accept documents in English)

- **International Aid Organizations.** Students from developing and emerging countries might find financial aid through international aid organizations like UNICEF, United Nations, Doctors Without Borders, Operation Smile, and countless others. Surf the internet looking for them.

- **Immigrant Organizations.** Some immigrant organizations in the U.S. give scholarships to students from their home country wanting to study in the U.S. This is a very small list:
  - **Sweden:** http://swedishfoundation.org/?gclid=CMfinu665vcgCFQqRHwodhfNgNzQ
  - **Italy:** [http://www.icf.org/scholarships.html](http://www.icf.org/scholarships.html)

- **GoFundMe.** Set up a Go Fund Me Account at [www.gofundme.com](http://www.gofundme.com). Ask everyone you know to make a contribution to your education for your birthday and any holiday. You’ll write this in as personal savings on your Statement of Support Form.

**If All Else Fails.** In case you can’t get the funding together when you want to start studies, you can always defer admission up to one year without reapplying that would allow you to work and save in your home country and just start a little later.