

## Instructions for the Statement of Support

All international students are required to show they have the financial capacity for study in the United States. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulates mandates financial reporting through the Student and Exchange Visitors Program (SEVP). At Alderson Broaddus, the Designated School Officials (DSOs) are required by law to attest to your financial abilities through the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

The Statement of Support is a legally binding document stating the student will have funds available and not become a burden to U.S. taxpayers. This Statement must be complete and approved before Alderson Broaddus University can issue the I-20 certificate of eligibility. There are no exceptions.

**Step One. Read the entire document carefully.** Gather the documents required for page 4. Understand what documents are required. The list of what documents can be included are listed on the Statement of Support.

**Step Two. Demographic Information.** Fill out the bottom of page 3. We use this information to determine the student's financial need. We may need this part in advance of the rest of the document if ABU feels there is some extenuating need.

**Step Three. Financial Information.** Fill out all of page 4. The top of page 2 will tell you the total needed. The total on page 4 should meet or exceed the total on page 2.

- The first line on page 4 is where you list any financial aid given to you by Alderson Broaddus University.
- The rest of this section tells you what you need to prove those funds. Enter 0 if you have nothing in any particular category. For instance, if you have no loans, just enter 0 there.
- Your statement can be any combination of funds as long as they add up to the total on line 2.
- **Any shortfalls** will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- **Spending money.** SEVIS only requires us to document the items on page 2. Students should consider spending money as part of their financial support. An occasional pizza or a new sweatshirt always occurs. It is very, very difficult for international students to procure work in the U.S.

Step 4. Verification.

- **Bank.** If funds are on deposit with a bank, they need to sign the document.
- **Parents or guardians:** A parent or guardian must also sign even if no part of the support is coming from a parent or guardian.
  - **Sponsors:** It is not required for F-1 students to have a U.S. sponsor. However, if funds are being supplied by anyone outside of the parents, they are considered a sponsor for the purpose of this document. If a sponsor is used, that sponsor must fill out an independent Statement of Support. The student will write the dollar amount in the sponsor box and the independent statement will be added to the original statement.
- **Student Signature.** The United States considers all college students as adults for the purposes of their education. Therefore, we require the student to sign as well. At the very least, the student should see the sacrifice being made for his/her education. Note that this adult status does not extend to laws off campus.

**The fine print:**

1. The statement cannot be more than six months old at the time of entry, meaning that if a student submitted one with more than six months before the start of school, ABU will need it to be updated closer to the start of school.
2. All funds reported must be converted to US dollars. Currency fluctuation is just one of the reasons we like to keep the statement up to date.
3. All payments to Alderson Broaddus must be made in U.S. dollar equivalents.
4. ABU reserves the right reserves to ask for additional proof or additional documents as needed to determine the student's adequate financial resources.
5. The amount on page 2 or anywhere on the web site should not be considered the final bill.