I. Policy

The University of South Carolina requires international applicants to present documentation of financial resources adequate to cover one year of expenses at the University. This policy ensures USC’s compliance with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ requirement: schools must certify that admitted international student have sufficient sources of income to pursue a full course of study. The International Student Services office is responsible for verifying financial certification.

II. Procedure

A. International Student Services prepares annual estimates of the cost of attending USC Columbia. The estimates specify the cost of tuition, housing, required fees, and living expenses. These estimates, along with financial certification forms, are distributed to all international applicants.

B. All international applicants are required to submit the financial certification form to International Student Services, accompanied by bank statements or other proof of adequate financial resources. Each student’s financial certification form and supporting documents are reviewed within the office and, if acceptable, the appropriate U.S. immigration document (I-20 or DS-2019 form) is issued to the student.

C. When financial or political condition of a country result in persistent failure of substantial numbers of students to pay tuition or to receive funds for living expenses, the University may require advance payment of fees before issuing immigration documents to these students.
III. Reason for Revision

Policy updated to reflect changes to immigration regulations.