



FORM I-20 INSTRUCTIONS 2017/2018 Academic Year

The information in this packet explains the process to get your Form I-20 for an F-1 visa. Please read it carefully and follow the directions completely in order to avoid delays in getting your I-20. This school is authorized under Federal law to enroll nonimmigrant alien students.

HOW TO GET YOUR FORM I-20

1. You must be **accepted** into your academic program.
2. You must submit the **non-refundable** \$200 tuition deposit.
3. You must submit a copy of your current **passport**.
4. You must complete and submit the **Form I-20 Application**, including the **Affidavit of Support**, to be completed by you and/or your sponsor(s). Each sponsor must sign the Affidavit of Support.
5. You must prove to us that you can support the cost of living and studying in the U.S. for **EACH** year of your program of study, as required by U.S. law.
 - o Please note that as a new international student, U.S. law prohibits off campus employment.
 - o Review the estimated financial requirements chart below. **Additional funding** for the English Language Institute or Summer, Winter, or Weekend sessions may also be required.
6. If you are **currently studying in the U.S.** and will transfer to LIU, you must also submit:
 - o A copy of your **current I-20**
 - o Completed **F-1 Transfer-in Form Application** (signed by your current school official) *this is a separate form.*
7. If **dependents** (spouse and/or children) will be accompanying you to LIU, you must submit copies of their passport information pages and/or a copy of your marriage certificate (with English translation). You will need to show additional funding for dependents.

2017 ESTIMATED FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Information Studies & Ph.D.	
Tuition/Fees (18 credits/year at \$1,565 per credit)	\$ 29,666
Living Expenses (9 months) **	\$ 16,320
Books/Supplies (9 months)	\$ 1,500
Health Insurance (12 months)*	\$ 2,369
TOTAL***	\$ 49,855

*All fees are estimated in U.S. dollars and are subject to change.

**Includes estimated on-campus room, board, transportation and personal expenses for 9 months.

***For dependents, add an additional \$8,000 per year for a spouse dependent and \$5,500 per year for each child dependent.

REQUIRED FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO RECEIVE YOUR I-20

Your financial support can come from any combination of the following sources (please see “Acceptable Documents” section below) in the U.S. or abroad.

All documents submitted must meet the following requirements:

- Dated no more than three months prior to the submission of this form
- Submitted in the English language
- Scanned financial documents: Please note: you will need to take the original financial documents to your visa appointment at the American Embassy or Consulate Office.

ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS TO SHOW FUNDING

1. If you are paying all expenses with personal funds (“self-sponsoring”) you must submit:

- A personal bank statement (s) for 2 consecutive months, it must show enough funding to support yourself for your entire program of study (2 years for graduate students; 4 years for undergraduate students). The statement must include the account type, last four digits of account number, current balance in the account, currency type, bank stamp, printed name and official signature. Additional information may be required at LIU's discretion.

2. If you have a family member or other individual sponsor you, you must submit the following:

- The sponsor’s bank statement (s) for 2 consecutive months, it must show enough funding to support the student’s FIRST year of study. The statement must include sponsor name, account type, last four digits of account number, current balance in the account, currency type, bank stamp, printed name and official signature. Additional information may be required at LIU's discretion.
- Each sponsor must sign the Affidavit of Support (page 3 of I-20 application); use additional pages if needed.

3. If you have an Organizational or Governmental Sponsorship, you must submit all of the following:

- Copy of the final Award Letter from the organization on official letterhead. The letter must specify the amount of money that is being provided to you and that the award is valid for each year of study.
- For non-governmental awards, you must also provide a bank statement or bank letter validating that all funds detailed in the Award Letter are available for disbursement to the University.