



I-20/F-1 Visa Requests for Elliott School International Economic Policy MA/MS Students – Spring 2026

If you are requesting an I-20 from the George Washington University for an F-1 student visa, please review the *Visa Request Overview*, found on the *Online Admitted Student Packet* (<https://elliott.gwu.edu/fall-admitted-students>). Documents and additional resources can be found on the *Online Admitted Student Packet*.

This document is intended to guide students on how to complete ‘Source of Funds’ section on page 2 of the Visa Request Form, which shows how a student will pay for the cost of attendance at the Elliott School.

Cost Breakdown (page 2):

Delineates the tuition and fees associated with the cost to attend the Elliott School; a minimum amount must be shown to apply for the I-20 regardless of sponsor type.

Self-Support (page 3):

How to show funding for your program if you are paying for your program without a sponsor.

Family/Individual Sponsor (page 4):

How to show funding for your program if you are paying for your program with help from a sponsor *or* if a sponsor is paying for the entirety of your program.

Government/Agency Sponsor (page 5):

How to show funding for your program if you are paying for your program with help from a government or agency sponsor *or* if a government or agency is paying for the entirety of your program.

Multiple Sources/GW Fellowship (page 6):

How to show funding for your program if you are paying for your program with help from multiple sources indicated above.

Bringing Dependents (page 7):

How to show funding for your program if you are bringing a spouse and/or child(ren). Additional costs apply.

Please email questions and documents to esiaiso@gwu.edu.

Cost Breakdown

Below is the total estimated cost per year for an international Elliott School student on an F-1 visa in the International Economic Policy Master's programs. *Additional fees apply to year 1 for students required to take an EAP Course(s).* The official Elliott School fee breakdown may also be found [online](#).

Students are billed for tuition and fees per semester and can expect to receive their bill via email 4 to 6 weeks before the start of each semester. Bills may be accessed through the eBill System (<https://studentaccounts.gwu.edu/how-access-ebill-system>) and must be paid by the first day of the semester.

For more information on university payment policies and to ask questions related to your bill, tuition and fees, and payment methods, contact the Student Accounts Office (<https://studentaccounts.gwu.edu/>) via email at sao@gwu.edu or via phone at (202) 994-7350.

MA	Year 1 Cost	Year 2 Cost
Tuition (\$2,280.00/credit)	\$45,600	\$22,800
Student Association Fee (\$3.00/credit)	\$60.00	\$30
Matriculation Fee (One-time fee)	\$100.00	N/A
Elliott School Service Fee (\$100.00/credit)	\$2,000.00	\$1,000
International Student Fee (\$45.00/semester)	\$90.00	\$45.00
Living Expenses	\$25,200.00	\$12,600.00
Books & Insurance	\$4,641.00	\$2,321.00
Total¹	\$77,691.00	\$38,796.00

(1) Program cost reflects 30 credit hours, 10 credits per semester to maintain full-time status for an F-1 visa. Please note that 30 credits are required to graduate.

*****All requests must have \$77,691.00 in the "Total" box for "Year 1" and \$38,796.00 in the "Total" box for "Year 2" in the 'Source of Funds' section on page 2 of the Visa Request Form. There should be nothing in the columns for "Year 3" and "Year 4".*****

Self-Support

If you are using personal funds as your sole source of support, you must show sufficient funds for both years of study in cash, a balance of at least **\$116,487.00** available for withdrawal at any time. Write the estimated cost in the 'SELF-SUPPORT' row for Year 1 and Year 2. **\$77,691.00** must be in the "Total" box for "Year 1" and **\$38,796** in the "Total" box for "Year 2".

You must complete and sign the official certification portion of the Visa Request form and submit a letter in English from a bank official on letterhead stationery that includes the following information:

- bank's address
- bank's phone number
- date letter was written (not more than 12 months old)
- full legal name of account owner (must match name on official certification and passport)
- type of account
- date the account was opened
- the current available balance

Acceptable account types include checking or savings accounts, certificates of deposit, money market accounts, and approved loans. *Funding in stocks and other long-term investments will not be accepted.*

AMOUNTS IN U.S. DOLLARS (must be provided for estimated length of program)						REQUIRED FORM OF VERIFICATION
SOURCE OF FUNDS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
SELF-SUPPORT	\$77,691	\$38,796				Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR						Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
GOVERNMENT/AGENCY SPONSOR	\$					Official letter of support
GW	\$					Award letter
OTHER (specify) _____	\$					Original bank letters, affidavits
TOTAL Totals must equal or exceed the University's estimate of expenses for each calendar year you plan to attend.	\$77,691	\$38,796				

Family/Individual Sponsor

If you will be sponsored by your family or another individual, the sponsor must show sufficient funds for the first year of study in cash, a balance of at least \$77,691.00 available for withdrawal at any time. Write the estimated cost in the 'FAMILY / INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR' row for Year 1 and Year 2.

\$77,691.00 must be in the "Total" box for "Year 1" and **\$38,796** in the "Total" box for "Year 2". *If the amount of the funding provided by your sponsor is less than \$77,691.00, you must have your own funding or funding from another sponsor to meet the required amount.*

Your sponsor (and each additional sponsor - make a separate copy of this section for them to fill) must complete and sign the official certification portion of the Visa Request form and submit a letter in English from a bank official on letterhead stationery that includes the following information:

- bank's address
- bank's phone number
- date letter was written (may not be more than 12 months old)
- full legal name of account owner (must match name on official certification)
- type of account
- date the account was opened
- the current available balance

Acceptable account types include checking or savings accounts, certificates of deposit, money market accounts, and approved loans. *Funding in stocks and other long-term investments will not be accepted.*

Sponsors who are living in the U.S. and are *not* U.S. citizens must provide copies of the immigration papers (I-94 and visa stamp), as well as a copy of the biographical page of their passport.

AMOUNTS IN U.S. DOLLARS
(must be provided for estimated length of program)

SOURCE OF FUNDS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	REQUIRED FORM OF VERIFICATION
SELF-SUPPORT	\$					Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR	\$77,691	\$38,796				Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
GOVERNMENT/AGENCY SPONSOR	\$					Official letter of support
GW	\$					Award letter
OTHER (specify) _____	\$					Original bank letters, affidavits
TOTAL Totals must equal or exceed the University's estimate of expenses for each calendar year you plan to attend.	\$77,691	\$38,796				

Government/Agency Sponsor

If you will be sponsored by a government or agency, the sponsor must show sufficient funds for the first year of study in cash, a balance of at least **\$77,691.00** available for withdrawal at any time. Write the entire estimated cost in the 'GOVERNMENT / AGENCY SPONSOR' row for Year 1 and Year 2.

\$77,691.00 must be in the "Total" box for "Year 1" and **\$38,796** in the "Total" box for "Year 2". If the amount of the funding provided by your sponsor is less than **\$77,691.00**, you must have your own funding or funding from another sponsor to meet the required amount.

Submit an original sponsorship letter, letter of award, or scholarship certificate. The letter should be in English and include the following information:

- current date (not more than 12 months old)
- name of sponsor
- address of sponsor
- name of your intended degree and major at the George Washington University (i.e. Master's in International Affairs)
- U.S. dollar amount of award (including the monthly or yearly amount for living expenses)
- duration of your award (exact starting and ending dates)
- any conditions of the award/sponsorship

If you will be sponsored by a private company, OR if a financial document is submitted with the name of a private company as the account holder, you must provide a letter from the CEOs of the company signing off on the sponsorship of the student with company funds (even if there is only 1 CEO). Please be sure that this is on official company letterhead and submitted in PDF format.

AMOUNTS IN U.S. DOLLARS (must be provided for estimated length of program)						REQUIRED FORM OF VERIFICATION
SOURCE OF FUNDS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
SELF-SUPPORT	\$					Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR						Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
GOVERNMENT/AGENCY SPONSOR	\$77,691	\$38,796				Official letter of support
GW	\$					Award letter
OTHER (specify) _____	\$					Original bank letters, affidavits
TOTAL Totals must equal or exceed the University's estimate of expenses for each calendar year you plan to attend.	\$77,691	\$38,796				

Multiple Sources/GW Fellowship

If you received a fellowship award letter from the Elliott School or GW, write the exact amount of the award as stated in the award letter for Year 1 and Year 2 in the GW row. If you will be sponsored by your family or another individual for the remaining amount, write that amount in the corresponding row for Year 1 and Year 2. **\$77,691.00 must be in the “Total” row for “Year 1” and \$38,796 in the “Total” row for “Year 2”.**

Submit a copy of the Elliott School or GW fellowship or tuition award letter you received via email. The letter should include: U.S. dollar amount or value of award, exact starting and ending dates, specify whether the award is renewable, and conditions of the award. *If the amount of the funding provided by your sponsor is less than \$77,691.00, you must have your own funding or funding from another sponsor to meet the required amount.*

Your sponsor must complete and sign the official certification portion of the Visa Request form and enclose a letter in English from a bank official on letterhead stationery that includes the following information:

- bank’s address
- bank’s phone number
- date letter was written (not more than 12 months old)
- full legal name of account owner (must match name on official certification)
- type of account
- date the account was opened
- the current available balance

Acceptable account types include checking or savings accounts, certificates of deposit, money market accounts, and approved loans. *Funding in stocks and other long-term investments will not be accepted.*

Sponsors who are living in the U.S. and are *not* U.S. citizens must provide copies of the immigration papers (I-94 and visa stamp), as well as a copy of the biographical page of their passport.

AMOUNTS IN U.S. DOLLARS
(must be provided for estimated length of program)

SOURCE OF FUNDS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	REQUIRED FORM OF VERIFICATION
SELF-SUPPORT						
	\$					Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR	\$67,691	\$28,796				Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
GOVERNMENT/AGENCY SPONSOR						Official letter of support
	\$					
GW	\$10,000	\$10,000				Award letter
	\$					
OTHER (specify) _____	\$					Original bank letters, affidavits
	\$					
TOTAL Totals must equal or exceed the University's estimate of expenses for each calendar year you plan to attend.	\$77,691	\$38,796				
	\$					

Bringing Dependents

Applicants bringing a dependent (spouse and/or child) must check “Yes” on page 1, question 8 of the Visa Request form to indicate if you plan to bring a dependent(s) and submit a Dependent Information form and a legible copy of the biographical page of each dependent’s passport. Students must certify additional funds to cover **\$11,228.00 per year for a spouse and \$5,610.00 per year per child.**

You must complete and sign the official certification portion of the Visa Request form and submit a letter in English from a bank official on letterhead stationery that includes the following information:

- bank’s address
- bank’s phone number
- date letter was written (not more than 12 months old)
- full legal name of account owner (must match name on official certification and passport)
- type of account
- date the account was opened
- the current available balance

Acceptable account types include checking or savings accounts, certificates of deposit, money market accounts, and approved loans. *Funding in stocks and other long-term investments will not be accepted.*

This is an example of a self-funded student (**\$77,691.00**) bringing his/her spouse (**+\$11,228.00**) and one child (**+\$5,610.00**). The official bank document in this case would have to show a balance of at least **\$150,16300**. **\$94,529.00** must be in the “Total” box for “Year 1” and **\$55,634** must be in the “Total” box for “Year 2” on page 2 of the Visa Request Form.

AMOUNTS IN U.S. DOLLARS (must be provided for estimated length of program)						REQUIRED FORM OF VERIFICATION
SOURCE OF FUNDS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
SELF-SUPPORT	\$94,529	\$55,634	X			Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR						Original bank letter indicating current balance on account.
GOVERNMENT/AGENCY SPONSOR	\$					Official letter of support
GW	\$					Award letter
OTHER (specify) _____	\$					Original bank letters, affidavits
TOTAL Totals must equal or exceed the University's estimate of expenses for each calendar year you plan to attend.	\$94,529	\$55,634				