

# FINANCIAL DOCUMENTATION FOR LONDON

(updated June 2025)

All London-bound students applying for a visa must prepare documentation showing they have enough money to support themselves while abroad. *For further information, you can check the British government's [‘Money You Need’](#) website.*

*If you are not applying for a visa, we recommend you also have proof of funds prior to arrival, but do not require it. The British government determines how much of these maintenance funds is sufficient. Currently the amount is **£1,483.00 per month (or part of month)**.*

## Who needs a visa?

- Work placement students
- Students without a US/UK/Irish passport (please email [iclondoncenter@ithaca.edu](mailto:iclondoncenter@ithaca.edu))
- Students who want to be employed at a part-time job in the UK (including at ICLC)

The exchange rate as of publication of this document (June 16, 2025) is £1.00 = \$1.35. You can see current conversion rates using the [OANDA currency converter](#). **HOWEVER**, we calculate the amount you should hold based on £1 = \$1.37; exchange rates fluctuate, so we use this number as an overestimation that will ensure you hold enough funds. ***This means you will need to hold \$2,032.00 per month (£1,483.00 x 1.37), totaling \$8,128 (\$2,032.00 x 4 months).***

- If you are receiving financial aid in an amount that exceeds the charge for tuition, you can subtract that amount of “excess” financial aid from the \$8,128.00
  - **Example:** if you receive \$28,000.00 in financial aid per semester, and your semester tuition is \$25,815.00 (tuition dependent on your year of matriculation), you have “excess” aid. \$28,000.00 (financial aid minus) - \$25,815.00 (tuition) = \$2,185.00, which is the “excess” aid that you can deduct from the required \$8,128. Therefore, you would need to show proof of \$5,943.00 (\$8,128.00 - \$2,185.00 = \$5,943.00).

**Those applying for a visa** will need to have the proof of finances prepared **28 days** BEFORE applying for the visa, so you must start holding funds no later than **October 17, 2025**.

- **Example:** If you plan to submit your visa application on September 15, you must be able to show proof you have been holding the required funds in an acceptable bank account starting August 18.

**Those NOT applying for a visa** will only need to have the proof of finances ready to present upon arrival in London. You do not need to hold the funds for 28 days prior to arrival, just show that you have access to an account with the funds at that moment.

# WHAT CAN BE USED FOR PROOF OF FUNDS DOCUMENTATION?

You will need a letter from a bank OR a bank statement *dated within 30 days of submitting your visa application*. This will need to clearly state that you have a balance of at least \$8,128.00 – or the appropriate amount after subtracting your “excess” financial aid. A sample bank letter can be found on p. 3 of this document.

- The account can be in the student's name, a parent/ legal guardian name, or a joint account between the two. *It cannot be in the name of another relative, family friend, etc.*
- It must be a checking or savings account. It **cannot** be an investment account of any sort, including a 529 College Savings Account.
- **Bank letter:** must be on bank letterhead and signed by a bank official.
- **Bank statement:** must be bank generated (NOT printed out by the student) and stamped/signed by a bank official on each page of the statement.
- The bank account number on the documents may be only partially stated (e.g., XXXXXXX123) or redacted.
- If the account is a joint account with a parent/legal guardian, or is in a parent/legal guardian’s name only, then it must be accompanied by two additional documents:
  - A letter of financial support from the parent (see p. 4 for template)
  - The student's birth or adoption certificate, or court-issued documents demonstrating legal guardianship. These must be the originals or certified copies. *Photocopies that are not certified will not be accepted.*

**Visa Students:** The letter needs to indicate that they have held these funds for at least a full 28 days prior to applying for the visa.

- The funds **MUST NOT** drop below the amount that you need to show at any time during the 28-day period.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** While abroad, you must continue carrying the financial documentation with you each time you travel outside of the U.K. for the duration of the semester, as you could be asked for it anytime you re-enter the country from your travels.

## Sample: Bank Letter



28 State Street Boston, MA 0210

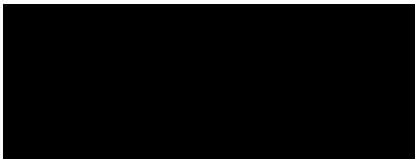
To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves as verification that [REDACTED] holds a savings account at Citizens Bank (account # XXXXXXXX572). As of the date of this letter, this account has a current balance of \$X,XXX.XX.

During a period of 28 consecutive days prior to the date of this letter, the daily balance in the account was no less than \$8,128.00.

If you have any questions regarding this verification, please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 444-2905.

Sincerely,



Banker  
Needham Heights Office

**\*\*NOTE: The second paragraph is only required for visa students.**

# Sample: Letter of Financial Support for London

*If the account is shared with a parent/legal guardian, or if the account is in a parent's/guardian's name only, your parent/guardian should provide you with a letter of support based on the following model. You will also need to present an original (or certified copy) of a birth or adoption certificate that shows proof of the parental relationship, or court documents.*

Dear Sir/Madam:

(Student's name) is a U.S. citizen born (month/day/year), in (city), (state). *(NOTE: If not a U.S. citizen, provide correct citizenship)*

This letter is written to advise you that my *son/daughter/child*, named above, is a participant in an academic program operated in London by Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York, where *he/she/they is/are* a full-time student in good academic standing. The program begins with an orientation on \_\_\_\_\_ *(date of arrival in London)* \_\_\_\_\_, and the academic program runs from \_\_\_\_\_ *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ *(date)* \_\_\_\_\_.

During my *son's/daughter's/child's* stay in the United Kingdom, I will provide monthly financial support of at least £1,483 per month, as recommended by the British Government for my *son's/daughter's/child's* living expenses.

Respectfully,

*Parent's signature*

Parent's name