Declaration and Certification of Finances (DCF)

All international students are required to submit the Declaration and Certification of Finances (DCF).

While Northeastern will consider all applicants – regardless of citizenship – for merit-based scholarships, consideration for need-based institutional grants or federal student loans is restricted to U.S. Citizens (or Nationals), U.S. Permanent Residents and eligible non-citizens. International students should therefore be prepared to fully finance their Northeastern education, and must demonstrate an ability to cover the cost of attendance – including tuition, room and board, and living expenses – for one academic year, by submitting the Declaration and Certification of Finances (DCF) to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Deadlines

You must complete the DCF Form and provide supporting documentation by the appropriate deadline. Please note: Your application for admission cannot be completed if your DCF remains incomplete.

Freshman Admission
- Early Decision I – November 15, 2019
- Early Action – December 1, 2019
- Early Decision II – January 15, 2020
- Regular Decision – February 15, 2020

Transfer Admission
- Spring Transfer – October 15, 2019
- Fall Transfer – April 15, 2020

Accessing the DCF

You can access your DCF through your Application Status Check portal, which you will be instructed to activate once your application to Northeastern is submitted and processed by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

To complete the DCF, you will need to provide detailed information and supporting documentation on your anticipated financial support for one academic year, which should equal or exceed Northeastern’s cost of attendance. To complete the requirement, you must complete our portal-based form. Any paper-based forms used by other universities or even other offices and departments at Northeastern will not complete the requirement.

You will be able to confirm whether or not your DCF was successfully submitted by checking your App Status Check application requirements checklist; DCF will have changed from “required” to “completed.”
Financial Support

For Fall 2020 and Spring 2021, Northeastern’s estimated cost of attendance is approximately $77,500.

Your financial support can come from three different sources – you, your parent(s) or guardian(s), and sponsors – and can include the following:

- Your personal savings.
- Funds from either your parent(s) or guardian(s), or an individual other than a parent or guardian.
- Scholarships (or sponsorship) by either a government agency, or a private organization, corporation, foundation, non-profit organization, or community-based organization.

Any funds included in your DCF must be readily available liquid assets or cash equivalents (i.e. a checking or savings account) which can easily be transferred to the United States. Non-liquid assets will not be sufficient.

- Non-liquid assets will not be sufficient. Examples include investment portfolios such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds; retirement plans such as 401(k) accounts; loan applications; credit card accounts; income tax forms or salary agreements; real estate, income earned from a property or rental property; and, material items such as livestock, land, fur, jewelry or wine.

As you enter your anticipated amount of financial support, please keep the following in mind:

- Amounts must be provided in U.S. Dollars. (Here is an online currency converter.)
- You are not required to demonstrate more than the cost of attendance.
- You are not required to indicate an amount for each sponsor type.
- You should only enter whole dollars, and no cents.
- You should only enter numbers; do not enter any special characters, such as a dollar sign, a comma or a period.
Supporting Financial Documentation

Next, you will need to upload supporting documents which verifies your financial support. You should upload your documents directly through the DCF. But, you can also use the documents uploader in your App Status Check, or email supporting documents to admissions@northeastern.edu. To verify funds being provided by each sponsor, you will need to submit either a Bank Statement or Scholarship Award (or Financial Guarantee) Letter.

All documents must meet the following requirements:
- Issued no more than 6 months before the application deadline.
- Written in English, or you will need to attach a certified English translation.
- Amounts should be in U.S. Dollars, or you will need to attach a currency conversion.

Your documents will also need to meet requirements which are specific to the document type:

**Bank Statement**
You can provide a bank statement, letter from the bank, or a current financial statement, which must meet “core” criteria in addition to including all of the following information:
- Bank name
- Account holder’s name
- Account balance
- Type of currency

**Scholarship Letter or Financial Support Letter**
You will need to provide an original or copy of your scholarship award letter or financial support letter, which will need to meet “core” criteria in addition to including all of the following information:
- Your award amount
- Award duration
- Terms of renewal
Frequently Asked Questions

I am a domestic applicant. Am I required to submit the DCF?
If you are an international student applying from a high school in the United States (i.e. a resident alien), you will still be required to complete the DCF, even if you are currently in the U.S. on any nonimmigrant status (e.g. H-4, L-2, etc.) and not planning on changing to F-1 status.

I am not an international student. Am I required to submit the DCF?
If your App Status Check portal includes the DCF as required, but your citizenship status is listed below, you can either update your status through the DCF Form, or by contacting the Office of Undergraduate Admissions:
- U.S. Citizens (including U.S. Dual Citizens), and U.S. Nationals
- U.S. Permanent Residents
- Eligible non-citizens (as determined by the U.S. Customs and Immigration Services)
- If you have any questions about whether or not you’re eligible for a waiver, please contact your Admissions Counselor.

Do I need to complete the DCF if I am applying for need-based financial aid?
Northeastern does not offer need-based financial aid to international students. While we will consider you for merit-based scholarships, you will still be required to submit the DCF as scholarships do not cover the entire cost of attendance.

I am unable to demonstrate an ability to cover the cost of attendance. How can I request a waiver?
If your financial circumstances (as determined by the financial support information you provided) warrant a waiver, you will not be required to upload supporting documentation, but will instead be given an opportunity to explain how to intend to finance your Northeastern education. Responses will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee.

I already submitted the DCF but I would like to edit the information I provided or upload additional documents. How can I?
You can still access the DCF, even after you’ve pressed the submit button. You can re-enter the DCF through your App Status Check, and either edit your responses to the financial support questions or upload additional supporting documents. You will need to again press the submit button in order for your updates to be processed.