

## **Springfield College Exchange Visitor Financial Documentation**

With the exception of a few specific programs, Springfield College does not have funds to support the living expenses or travel to and from the US for exchange visitors. Exchange visitors must provide proof of sufficient financial support. This is a part of the visa application.

Exchange visitors may request financial assistance for books and tuition for a maximum of \$500. A letter of request should be submitted with application materials and will be considered on an individual basis.

The minimum funding requirement for Exchange Visitors at Springfield College is \$1275 per month or \$15,300 per year for the exchange visitor, \$400 per month for the spouse, and \$200 per month for each dependent child. (see below for a list of itemized costs)

J-1 Exchange Visitors and their J-2 dependents must be covered by sickness and accident insurance for the duration of their stay in the United States. Failure to purchase such insurance may lead to loss of legal immigration status and termination from the Exchange Visitor Program. These Department of State (DOS) regulations are published in the Code of Federal Regulations [22 CFR 62.14].

Minimum health insurance coverage must provide all of the following:

- Medical benefits of at least \$50,000 per accident or illness;
- In case of death, repatriation of remains in the amount of \$7,500;
- In case of serious illness or injury, payment of expenses associated with the medical evacuation of the Exchange Visitor to his or her home country in the amount of \$10,000;
- A deductible not to exceed \$500 per accident or illness.

The Springfield College Health Plan meets all of the J-1 requirements. Health insurance coverage backed by the full faith and credit of the government of the Exchange Visitor's home country meets the Department of State (DOS) requirements. Effective June 2011, all Exchange Visitors will be enrolled in Springfield College Health Insurance. Spouses and children (J-2 visa holders) will be advised to purchase private insurance that meets the coverage detailed above.

The regulations continue: "An Exchange Visitor who willfully fails to maintain the insurance coverage set forth above . . . or who makes a material misrepresentation to the sponsor [Springfield College] concerning such coverage shall be deemed to be in violation of these regulations and shall be subject to termination as a participant." [22 CFR 62.14(h)]

**2011 Estimated costs for exchange scholar at Springfield College for 1 year**

Transportation to the US	\$1500
Scholar Fees \$500/semester Allows auditing up to 15 credits	\$1000
Housing (approximately \$500/month, depending on availability)	\$6000
Food and living expenses (\$450/month)	\$4800
Health Insurance	\$1333(approx.)
SEVIS fee	\$180
Cultural trips	\$500+
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15, 313</b>