

# Graduate Cost of Living Information for I-20 Requests

Instructions: When completing the I-20 for students enrolled in a graduate level academic program, the department or program administrator must provide a reasonable estimate for living expenses such as rent, utilities, and food costs. The Office of Financial Aid has provided the following "Student Living Expense" to assist with the completion of the I-20 Request. The amount for each category is based on documented research and survey results and are in alignment with the Federal Cost of Attendance used for all students enrolled in a graduate level program.

Step One: Determine the occupancy rate.

The "occupancy rate" is determined at the school level (typically by the Dean's Office) and is used for ALL I-20 requests within that school (regardless of academic program)

- o Self-Occupant = Most international students live on their own, without a roommate. They have sole responsibility for living expenses such as rent, utilities, food. OR
- o Shared Occupant = Most international students live with a roommate or spouse. Living expenses such as rent and utilities are split between occupants.

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