To apply to Illinois State University, you will need to prove that you will have enough money to pay for all of your expenses in the United States, which should be equal to or greater than the full budgeted amount below. You will also need to show proof of funding when you apply for your J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa at the nearest U.S. Embassy/Consulate in your home country.

The budget below is intended to give you a reasonable idea of the amount of money you will need for various expenses. Please note that the figures below are ESTIMATES, since exact figures are not yet available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISU pays</th>
<th>Student pays</th>
<th>Student pays</th>
<th>Student pays</th>
<th>Student pays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUITION FEES</td>
<td>$997 GENERAL FEES for 9 credit hours (FIGURE INCLUDES $250 HEALTH INSURANCE)</td>
<td>ROOM and MEAL PLAN</td>
<td>$500 BOOKS</td>
<td>MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total ESTIMATED EXPENSES to Study at ISU for 1 Semester = $9,231**

- **General Fees are NOT the same thing as tuition fees.**
- **Tuition fees relate to academic expenses. General Fees help the University pay for computers and books, maintaining the buildings, etc. They also cover the cost of student services, such as access to the Fitness Center, Career Center, Counseling Services, academic tutoring, and more.**
- **The cost of General Fees is based on the number of credits in which you are enrolled. The estimate here is based on a student taking 9 credit hours of classes with general fees at $83/credit hour.**
- **As an international student on a J-1 visa, you must be enrolled full-time. To be considered full time, graduate students must enroll for at least 9 semester hours of classes.**
- **(3,000) Housing is based on a double room (2 people sharing 1 room).**
- **Other room fees (included in $3,000):**
  - **(250) Housing deposit;**
  - **($100) To open I-House early and to stay open during holidays and breaks;**
  - **http://www.housing.ilstu.edu/residence-halls/**
- **($2,450) Meals are based on the “7-Day Unlimited Access Plan.” For more info: http://dining.illinoisstate.edu/meal_plan/**
- **Students living on campus must buy a meal plan.**
- **($250) During each semester, University Dining Centers are closed for 1 week for holidays and breaks; students must eat off campus. You should expect to need about $35/day during this time for meals.**
- **Books in the United States can be expensive! The amount that you spend on books will depend on how many are needed for each class and where they are available. We recommend checking Milner Library first and then websites such as amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com for good deals on new or used books.**
- **($40) Welcome Week: This fee is for attending another orientation that Illinois State University offers for all new students (outside of international student orientation).**
- **($79) Tuberculosis Test**
- **($50) Compliance Fee: This fee will be assessed only to any new student who has not complied with the Illinois Immunization Law by the tenth class day (not included in budget).**
- **($1,915) Clothing, bedding, personal supplies, school supplies, etc.**

Please see other side for Academic Year figures.
Total ESTIMATED EXPENSES to Study at ISU for the Academic Year

$18,462
2 Semesters

This is the funding amount needed to study at ISU for two semesters if the student will return to their home country for the Winter Break.

$19,512
2 Semesters + Winter Break at ISU

This is the amount needed for a student who studies at ISU for two semesters and stays at ISU during the Winter Break.

Please note: During the Winter Break (about 4 weeks long), students also need to eat off campus because the ISU dining centers are closed. Students should expect to need about $1,050 extra to buy meals off campus (about $35/day) during this break.

Paying the University:

The University offers a payment plan of three equal installments and fees. A small fee is charged for paying in 3 installments, rather than in 1 payment. You will be told more about billing statements and paying after you arrive.

**Payment Methods:**

- **E-Check** - Electronic check payment is now available online at: [https://aiscampus.ais.ilstu.edu/StudentAccountPayments/login.html](https://aiscampus.ais.ilstu.edu/StudentAccountPayments/login.html)
- **Cash, check or money order** can be used to pay at the Student Accounts Building.
- **By Mail** – Check or money order, please allow a few days for mail service.
- **Drop Box** – For your convenience we have a drop box located on the Student Accounts Building. Payments placed in the drop box will be processed the next business day.
- **Peer Transfer** – [https://www.peertransfer.com/](https://www.peertransfer.com/)
- **Credit Cards** – Illinois State University Student Accounts Office only accepts credit card payments through the State of Illinois E-Pay program. Any Student Account charge at Illinois State University may be paid through this service. A convenience fee will be assessed by the State of Illinois for using their service.
  - Credit Cards accepted are MasterCard, Discover and American Express. **The University does not accept VISA.**