# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FINANCIAL POLICY & PROCEDURES

## **International Admissions**

#### **Deadline for Applications**

- Fall Semester: May 1
- Spring Semester: October 1

### **Admission Requirements**

See Admissions (http://catalog.georgian.edu/graduate/admission-policies/) section of catalog.

After being accepted and making a deposit to GCU, all students applying for an F-1 (student) visa must submit the following:

- 1. An affidavit of financial support. This document must be signed by your sponsor (the person whose name is on the bank statement) and must be stamped by a notary public.
- 2. Declaration of Finances (Affidavit of Support). U.S. visa regulations require that a student's admission be based upon academic acceptance and satisfactory evidence of adequate funds to meet the expenses involved in the proposed program of study. Students must submit documentary evidence of the amount of financial support available from personal resources, family funds, or another sponsor (e.g., an employer or government organization) that will provide funds for their educational and living expenses at Georgian Court University. The evidence required depends on the source of financial support.
- 3. If personal resources are the source:
  - A letter from the student stating that he/she will provide for his/ her own expenses;
  - b. Personal bank statements, an official letter from the student's bank stating his/her balance, or certification of income from the student's employer.
- 4. If family resources are the source:
  - Letter of sponsorship from the family member(s) indicating his/ her relationship to the student and the duration and level of support;
  - b. Bank statements, an official letter from the sponsor's bank, or certification of income from the sponsor's employer.

If another sponsor is the source (e.g., employer, government, organization):

- 1. Declaration of Finances from the sponsor or organization that states a. name and address of the sponsor,
  - b. duration of support,
  - c. dollar amount available for educational expenses,
  - d. dollar amount available for living expenses and
  - e. how the funds will be disbursed to the university (e.g., monthly, quarterly).

If the sponsor wishes to be billed by Georgian Court University, this must be stated in the letter. Be sure to make it clear if fees, room/board, and health insurance should be billed in addition to tuition.

Deadline for Payments for new students and returning students:

- A tuition deposit of \$250 is required at time of acceptance. International students who need an I-20 form must submit their enrollment deposit by June 1 for the fall semester and November 1 for the spring semester.
- 2. Bills will be made available through Self-Service for all registered students in mid-July for the fall semester, in mid-December for the spring semester, and in mid-April for the Summer semester. Accounts must be settled by the student by the due date, which is three weeks prior to the semester start. A settled account is defined as total payments covering all current charges on the student statement. Total payment includes payments by ACH, check, credit card, or cash; Georgian Court scholarships awarded to the student; student loans approved by the lender and accepted by the student; expected payments through enrollment in our monthly payment plan. Charges not paid by the due date are subject to a \$65.00 late fee. A hold will also be placed on the student record that prevents the student from registering for additional classes, obtaining transcripts, and receiving a diploma until the balance is paid. All collection and legal fees may be added to the outstanding balance for which the student will be responsible. It is the student's responsibility to frequently check their account in their Self-Service portal to ensure the balance is current.

#### **Payment Methods**

Payment can be made via Self-Service or directly to the Office of Student Accounts. Online payments through Self-Service can be made via ACH from a bank account at no cost. Credit card payments can only be made online. We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. Credit card payments incur a nonrefundable fee of 2.75% of the payment amount. Payments in the form of check or money order may be made during posted office hours in Scully Registration and Finance Center. Checks should be made payable to Georgian Court University.

We accept wire transfers through Flywire. To originate tuition payments from a bank in your home country go to flywire.com (https:// payment.flywire.com/pay/payment/).

The Higher Education Act of 1965 states in Section 116 the financial responsibility of foreign students. Nothing in this act or any other federal law shall be construed to prohibit any institution of higher education from requiring a student who is a foreign national (and not admitted to permanent residence in the United States) to guarantee the future payment of tuition and fees to such institution by

1. Making advance payments of such tuition and fees;

2. Making deposits in an escrow account administered by such institution for such payments;

3. Obtaining a bond or other insurance that such payments will be made.

## **International Student Addendum** Sponsor's Affidavit of Support

While Georgian Court University offers limited scholarship support to international students, it does not provide need-based financial aid. As a result, you are required to provide proof of your ability to pay for all your educational expenses incurred. Applicants must show sufficient support or continuing income for four years of undergraduate study or two years of graduate study (tuition, room, board, fees, books, and personal expenses) in order to receive an I-20. The Financial Resource Statement must be signed by both the applicant and the sponsor (if applicable) and must be signed and sealed by a Notary Public or Official Administering Oath. Applications cannot be processed if this is not completed properly.

#### **Supporting Documents**

In addition to completing the Sponsor's Affidavit, documentary evidence of your financial ability to pay for your education must also be provided. All forms must be originals (except tax documents), translated to English, and less than six months old. If one document is not sufficient to provide proof of full program funding, include additional documentation. Acceptable forms of proof are as follows:

- 1. Letter of employment stating the sponsor's annual income (from the employer).
- 2. Bank letter stating the date the account was opened, total amount deposited for the last six months, and the present balance. Bank statements saying that "enough" or "sufficient" funds are available to support a student are not acceptable forms of evidence; they must also indicate U.S. dollar amounts.
- 3. Award letter from an organization providing a scholarship.