

Applying for a U.S. Social Security Number

Who needs a Social Security Number?

- Any student in F-1 or J-1 status who has an on-campus job, or who has been authorized for off-campus employment through CPT, OPT, Academic Training, or Economic Hardship must have a U.S. Social Security number
- This number serves as an employment identification number and is **required** before any employer can pay you for your work.

What is needed to apply for a Social Security number?

- Completed application form which can be found at http://www.ssa.gov/online/ss-5.pdf
- Valid Passport
- I-94 Admission Number (access through https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/ and print a copy)
- I-20 or DS-2019 form, with ink signatures from DSO & student
- Original letter signed in ink by employer, printed on an institutional letterhead template on ISS website. Must contain your start date, which cannot be more than 30 days in the future.
- Original letter signed in ink by the Office of International Affairs, verifying your student visa status and eligibility for social security number
- ISEP students only: must submit employment authorization letter from ISEP

How do I submit my Social Security application?

- You are not required to have an appointment, but you can make one. Please go to your assigned Social Security Administration office during operating hours to submit your application materials.
- The contact information for the SSA Office for students who live on or near campus is:
 - o Address: 2127 W Lawrence Ave Chicago IL 60625
 - o Phone: 1-877-409-8426
 - Note: if you live off-campus, you can confirm your local SSA office contact information here.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT APPLYING FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

- If you are new to North Park, you will be "Initial Status" in the SEVIS system.
 - You must be registered in SEVIS by the Office of International Affairs before applying for a Social Security number, and it is best to wait several days after SEVIS registration before you apply.
- After you submit your application to the Social Security office, your I-20 or DS-2019 information will be verified with USCIS.
- Please remember to fill out any new-hire paperwork required by North Park University. All questions about this paperwork can be directed to the Human Resources Office (humanresources@northpark.edu).
 - o Note: You may NOT begin working on campus until you receive your SSN and card.
- You should receive your SSN card within 5-10 days of application. If you do not receive your SSN card within 15-20 days, please notify International Affairs and/or the SSA.