

# How to apply for Social Security

**VISIT [INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS](#) TO READ MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**

## F-1 STUDENTS

<b>On-grounds employment</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete a "Letter Request" on ISSP Connect for SSN</li> <li>2. Obtain a letter from your <a href="#">UVA employer</a></li> <li>3. You will need to bring the two letters plus your passport, visa and I-94</li> </ol>
<b>Curricular Practical Training (CPT)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I-20 with CPT authorization</li> <li>2. Passport, visa and I-94</li> <li>3. Students with approved CPT may apply for SSN no earlier than 30 days prior to start of authorized employment</li> </ol>
<b>Optional Practical Training (OPT)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. OPT EAD Card</li> <li>2. OPT I-20</li> <li>3. Passport, visa and I-94</li> <li>4. NOTE: You can also apply for SSN through the OPT USCIS application</li> </ol>

*F-1 students are only eligible for social security if engaging in lawful employment. If you do not have lawful employment, you are **not** eligible for a social security.*

## J-1 STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

Individuals in J-1 status are eligible to apply for a social security number after arrival in the U.S. and are not required to provide any documentation of employment.



It is recommended however that J-1 students obtain a letter of permission from the ISO.

**This is not required of scholars.** The DS-2019 should be presented with passport, visa and I-94.

## SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE LOCATION AND HOURS



PHONE: 1-866-613-3959

ADDRESS:  
DISTRICT OFFICE  
1470 PANTOPS MTN PL  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22911

### HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and  
Friday: 9AM-4PM

Wednesday: 9AM-12 Noon

Closed Saturday and Sunday



Scan the QR code to visit our Social Security page for links and additional information

*Due to COVID-19, all students and scholars will need to call to make an appointment before visiting the Social Security Administration.*