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

On-grounds employment
1. Complete a "Letter Request" on ISSP Connect for SSN
2. Obtain a letter from your UVA employer
3. You will need to bring the two letters plus your passport, visa and I-94

Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
1. I-20 with CPT authorization
2. Passport, visa and I-94
3. Students with approved CPT may apply for SSN no earlier than 30 days prior to start of authorized employment

Optional Practical Training (OPT)
1. OPT EAD Card
2. OPT I-20
3. Passport, visa and I-94
4. NOTE: You can also apply for SSN through the OPT USCIS application

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

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