

HOW TO OBTAIN A SOCIAL SECURITY CARD & NUMBER

Social Security is the U.S. government's social insurance plan. All U.S. citizens have a Social Security number which designates their account with the Social Security Administration (SSA). If you are employed in the United States, you will need a Social Security number, even if your pay is exempt from Social Security withholding. If you would like to work, whether on or off campus, you will need a Social Security card.

The only way that you can get a Social Security card is if you obtain a job. The SSA will not issue a Social Security number for any other reason (unless you are a J-1 scholar with SSN eligibility letter issued by the International Office)

WORK = SSN #

There are no exceptions!

If you have obtained an off-campus job for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) or Optional Practical Training (OPT), you will need a social security number.

To get a Social Security number, you can schedule an appointment by calling **1-800-772-1213** or walk-in. On the day of your scheduled appointment, take your signed "**On-Campus Work Permit**" or "**CPT I-20**" and contract or **job offer** from the employer, **passport, I-20**, and **I-94** to the office of the Social Security Administration.



You will complete an application form that is available at the Social Security office. The passport is needed to prove your identity. It will take about two weeks to obtain your Social Security card.

The staff at this office is aware that international students need Social Security cards and are familiar with our "On-Campus Work Permit."

You can visit one of the three Social Security Administration offices listed below. We recommend that you go to the nearest office to your home. All offices are open Monday - Friday, 9AM - 4PM. For more information, you can call (800) 772-1213 or visit <https://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>.

A Social Security Administration
640 W Locust Ave, Fresno, CA 93650

B Social Security Administration
5140 E Olive Ave, Fresno, CA 93727

C Social Security Administration
865 Fulton St, Fresno, CA 93721

For questions or concerns regarding how to obtain a social security card, please contact California State University, Fresno's International Office:
international@csufresno.edu