APPLYING FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

WHERE TO APPLY

Social security number applications must be submitted in person at:

Lorain County Social Security Administration
221 W. 5th Street
Lorain, OH 44052
(866) 415-0172

The office is open 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., M-F. Please call to confirm before making travel plans.

WHAT TO BRING

• Completed Form SS-5, which is available @ https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf;
• completed employment verification form: the employment verification form is available on the international students web site. You must have either an on-campus job—or an offer for on-campus employment—in order to complete the employment verification form. If you are applying for a social security number (SSN) to provide to an off-campus employer, you must meet with a designated school official in the office to determine whether you are eligible to accept off-campus employment;
• a copy of your I-94 record, which is available @ www.cbp.gov/I94;
• your passport;
• your passport with your current F-1 visa;
• your current I-20; and
• photocopies of:
  • the biography page of your current passport;
  • your F-1 visa; and
  • your current I-20.

AFTER YOU APPLY

It normally takes three to four weeks for new cards to arrive. If your card is sent to our office, we will email to invite you to pick it up. If your card is sent to your address, please drop off a photocopy of the card, or send us a clear picture or scan of the card to intlstu@oberlin.edu.

Keep your SSN card with your other important documents, such as your I-20 and passport. It is best to carry the number on a separate piece of paper until you memorize it. We recommend that you do not keep the original card in your wallet.

REPLACING A LOST SOCIAL SECURITY CARD

If you lose the card or if it becomes damaged, you will need to apply for a replacement following the same steps that you took to apply for the original card.

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