



This handout has been prepared for informational purposes only and requirements are subject to change.

F-1 visa holders are permitted to apply for a Social Security Number **only** after they have proof of an on-campus or off-campus job.

J-1 visa holders are permitted to apply for a Social Security Number ten business days after their arrival into the United States. J-1 visa holders are **not** required to show proof of a job to obtain this number.

If you are an F-1 visa holder without employment or a J-1 visa holder in the US for less than ten business days, the information below will assist in obtaining a variety of services as you settle into the US.

Off-Campus Housing

Present the following documents in place of a SSN:

- A valid passport
- A letter of acceptance from your school
- A copy of your I-20/DS-2019 to prove financial resources

Office of Off-Campus Living: <http://www.business-services.upenn.edu/offcampusliving/>

Opening a Bank Account

This is not an exclusive list of banking options.

Commerce Bank, Citizens Bank, PNC Bank, Student Federal Credit Union:

Present the following documents in place of a SSN:

- A valid passport
- A valid Penn ID

Be sure to contact a representative of the bank for the most up to date information on opening an account.

Cell Phone

This is not an exclusive list of cell phone options.

Provide the following in place of a SSN:

- Verizon Wireless: \$400.00 security deposit (will be returned after one year)
- Cingular Wireless:
 - Monthly plan: \$500.00 security deposit (will be returned after one year); passport, birth certificate, proof of address
 - Prepaid plan: US bank account

Be sure to contact a representative of the cell phone company for the most up to date information on obtaining a cell phone.

PECO Energy Company

Present the following documents in place of a SSN at 23rd and Market St.:

- A valid passport
- A valid Penn ID

PA Driver's License/State ID

Present the following documents in place of a SSN:

- A valid passport
- I-94 card
- Visa
- A letter of denial/indecision from the Social Security Administration Office
- An I-20/DS-2019 with a program end date that is at least one year away
- A letter from OIP verifying attendance at the school listed on your I-20/DS-2019
- Two proofs of residency (see OIP's Obtaining a Pennsylvania Driver's License or ID Card handout)

PennDOT Fact Sheet: http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/pdotforms/fact_sheets/pub195nc.pdf

OIP's Obtaining a Pennsylvania Driver's License or ID Card: <http://www.upenn.edu/oip/iss/forms/drivingpa.pdf>