How to Apply for a SSN

The Social Security Administration office in New Haven is currently closed to walk-in traffic.

If you:

- are a new or continuing international student or scholar, and
- meet the eligibility requirements to apply for a Social Security Number,

you may request an appointment by completing this request form [1].

These appointments are in-person, so you must:

- be in New Haven, and
- have met quarantine requirements.

Please do not sign up for a Social Security appointment unless you qualify.

OISS will make arrangements with the New Haven office and inform them of your appointment. The wait will be 2-3 weeks.

For specific application instructions, select your immigration status below:

**F-1 Student**

**On-Campus Employment**

1. Complete an application form (Form SS-5), available online [2].
2. Obtain a letter confirming your Yale related immigration status and employment eligibility from OISS (We will email you this letter once we set up your SSN appointment)
3. Obtain written verification from employer or the for-service fellowship sponsor which includes the nature of the employment or fellowship, number of hours, and the date employment is expected to begin.
   - **Yale College** – Written verification of employment can be requested from the Student Employment Office.
   - **Masters and Professional Students** - Written verification can come directly from your School or from the Student Employment Office. *(Note: If you are an MA student and a TA in GSAS, then please contact the Teaching Fellow Program [3] for an employment letter)*
   - **PhD Students** – All PhD students are eligible to apply for a social security number. Make a copy of your letter of admission and obtain a letter from OISS certifying your eligibility to apply.
4. On your appointment date, take the documents above along with your passport, I-94 record [4], and your I-20 to the Social Security Administration (SSA) at 150 Court Street, 4th Floor (see right margin for directions.)

**On CPT or OPT**

1. Complete an application form (Form SS-5), available online [2].
2. Obtain a letter confirming your Yale related immigration status and employment eligibility from OISS (We will email you this letter once we set up your SSN appointment)
3. Have your valid passport, I-94 record [4], and your I-20 with CPT or OPT authorization with you (along with Form SS-5 and OISS letter) when you go to the SSA office.
4. If you are on OPT, you will also need to present your Employment Authorization Card when you go to the SSA office.
**J-1 Exchange Visitor**

1. Complete an application form (Form SS-5), available online [2].
2. Obtain a letter confirming your Yale related immigration status and employment eligibility from OISS (We will email you this letter once we set up your SSN appointment).
3. On your appointment date, take the documents above along with your passport, I-94 record [4], and your DS-2019 form to the Social Security Administration at 150 Court Street, 4th Floor (see right margin for directions.)

**J-2**

1. Complete an application form (Form SS-5), available online [2].
2. Take the application along with your passport, Employment Authorization Card (EAD), I-94 record [4], and your DS-2019 form to the Social Security Administration at 150 Court Street, 4th Floor (see right margin for directions.)

**H-1B/O-1**

1. Complete an application form (Form SS-5), available online [2].
2. Take the application along with your passport, I-797 approval notice, and I-94 record [4] to the Social Security Administration at 150 Court Street, 4th Floor (see right margin for directions.)

**TN**

1. Complete an application form (Form SS-5), available online [2].
2. Take the application along with your passport, I-797 approval notice, and I-94 record [4] to the Social Security Administration at 150 Court Street, 4th Floor (see right margin for directions.)

Source URL: https://oiss.yale.edu/taxes-legal/social-security-number-itin/how-to-apply-for-a-ssn

Links: