

Social Security Number Application Process

Dear International Students,

Students with on-campus employment or RA/TAs should apply for a Social Security Number if you do not already have one. Please **bring a set of printed paper copies (NOT DIGITAL) and all originals** of the required immigration documents listed below.

Social Security Administration (SSA) will be at MIT to receive applications for a *Social Security Number (SSN)* or for an *SSN Denial Letter* on:

- **Wednesday, September 11** in Room E19-202 from 10:00am to 2:00pm
- **Tuesday, September 24** in Room E19-202 from 10:00am to 2:00pm

If you cannot make either of these dates, please plan to go directly to the SSA office in Cambridge to apply at your convenience. See [our SSA webpage \(http://iso.mit.edu/students/ssn.shtml\)](http://iso.mit.edu/students/ssn.shtml) for more details.

Students with fellowships may apply for a Social Security number. However, it is not guaranteed since it is at the discretion of the Social Security Administration whether or not to grant SSNs for Fellowships. In order to apply you will need a letter from your department/program specifying the **start date** of the Fellowship on department's letterhead. See template: <https://iso.mit.edu/students/ssn.shtml>. Please note, it is also at the discretion of the MIT department/program as to whether or not they will issue such a letter for Fellowships.

PLEASE DO NOT COME WITHOUT THE COMPLETE PACKAGE LISTED BELOW

F-1 STUDENT Application Process

(Only F-1 students currently employed or with a fellowship start date within 30 days may apply.)

Please bring A SET of PRINTED PAPER COPIES (NOT DIGITAL) OF IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS PLUS ALL ORIGINALS of the documents listed below. This is mandatory to submit your application for an SSN or a Denial Notice – No exceptions!

1. Completed Social Security application form (SS-5)
Website: <http://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>, Select #2. (DO NOT fill in line 5 on the application form)
2. Letter from the ISO (You may apply for or pick up the letter from ISO staff on site at the SSN application session.)
3. Letter from your MIT department or employer. See template: <https://iso.mit.edu/students/ssn.shtml> (Fellowship recipient letters **MUST** have a Fellowship start date on the letter)
4. Form I-20. (I-20 must indicate Student's Funding, assistantship/fellowship information)
5. I-94 Electronic Record print out (<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov>)
6. Passport (Photo Identification page, Visa page and Admission Entry Stamp with D/S notation)
*Please [Click Here \(https://iso.mit.edu/sites/default/files/images/Admission%20Entry%20Stamp.png\)](https://iso.mit.edu/sites/default/files/images/Admission%20Entry%20Stamp.png) to see an image of Admission Entry Stamp D/S.

J-1 STUDENT Application Process

(J-1 students may apply with or without employment)

Please bring A SET of PRINTED PAPER COPIES (NOT DIGITAL) OF IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS PLUS ORIGINALS of all of the documents listed below. This is mandatory to submit your application for an SSN or a Denial Notice – No exceptions!

1. Completed Social Security application form (SS-5)
Website: <http://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>, Select #2. (DO NOT fill in line 5 on the application form)
2. Letter from the ISO (You may apply for or pick up the letter from ISO staff on site at the SSN application session.)
3. Form DS2019
4. I-94 Electronic Record print out (<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov>)
5. Passport (Photo Identification page, Visa page and Admission Entry Stamp with D/S notation)
*Please [Click Here](https://iso.mit.edu/sites/default/files/images/Admission%20Entry%20Stamp.png) (<https://iso.mit.edu/sites/default/files/images/Admission%20Entry%20Stamp.png>) to see an image of Admission Entry Stamp D/S.

Applying for a DENIAL LETTER for F-1, F-2, J-2

An SSA Denial Letter is required if you would like to apply for a MASS driver's license or State ID
<https://www.mass.gov/topics/licenses-ids>

Please bring A SET of PRINTED PAPER COPIES (NOT DIGITAL) OF IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS PLUS ORIGINALS of all of the documents listed below. This is mandatory to submit your application for an SSN or a Denial Notice – No exceptions!

1. Completed Social Security application form (SS-5)
Website: <http://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>, Select #2. (DO NOT fill in line 5 on the application form)
2. Form I-20 or Form DS2019.
3. I-94 Electronic Record print out (<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov>)
4. Passport (Photo Identification page, Visa page and Admission Entry Stamp with D/S notation)
*Please [Click Here](https://iso.mit.edu/sites/default/files/images/Admission%20Entry%20Stamp.png) (<https://iso.mit.edu/sites/default/files/images/Admission%20Entry%20Stamp.png>) to see an image of Admission Entry Stamp D/S.

Sincerely,

The International Students Office

International Students Office
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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Cambridge, MA 02139-4307
(617) 253-3795 | iso.mit.edu | iso-help@mit.edu
M-F: 9 am - 4 pm, closed Wed from 10 am - 11:30 am