APPLYING FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)
J-1 Exchange Visitors

The purpose of a Social Security Number (SSN) is to help the government track an individual's earnings in the U.S. for tax purposes. Once you are offered a job, you will need to apply for a SSN from the Social Security Administration (SSA). Eligibility for an SSN is based on the offer of paid employment, and regulations require you to provide a valid employment offer letter and authorization from Visa & Immigration Services to apply for a SSN. After receiving your SSN Authorization letter from VIS, you must apply for an SSN in person at a local Social Security office. Provide originals and copies of the following documents to verify your age, identity, immigration status, and employment eligibility:

Documents Required	J-1	J-2	Non-Salaried Appointments
Passport	✓	✓	✓
Form I-94 Printed from i94.cbp.dhs.gov	✓	✓	✓
DS-2019	✓	✓	✓
Offer of Employment Letter	✓	✓	✓ Invitation Letter
Employment Authorization Document (EAD)		✓	
Completed SSN Application Print completed form from ssa.gov/ssnumber	✓	✓	✓

DIRECTIONS: The closest SSA Office to Stony Brook University is located in Patchogue (75 Oak Street, Patchogue, NY 11772). If you do not have access to a car, you can take the Suffolk County S-51 Bus from campus to the Patchogue LIRR Station. The bus ride will be about 1.5 hours long, and will drop you off 12 minutes away from the SSA office. The Suffolk County bus stops are the same as the SBU Transit bus stops.