

Social Security Number: In the United States, a Social Security number (SSN) is a nine-digit number issued to U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and temporary (working) residents. The number is issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, an independent agency of the United States government. Its primary purpose is to track individuals for Social Security purposes.

On-Campus Employment FAQs

- **Am I eligible to work on-campus?** Yes! International students on an F-1 visa are eligible to work on campus, this includes ELAP and degree-seeking students as long as you meet the requirements in the job posting. All open student positions you are eligible to apply for can be found here: <https://www.stfrancis.edu/employment-ads/positions/>
- **How do I apply for on-campus employment?** Follow the instructions listed on the job posting to apply for your on-campus job and contact your international advisor if you have any questions throughout the application process.
- **How many hours a week can I work at my on-campus job?** F-1 visa students are eligible to work up to 20 hours a week when school is in session and full-time during annual vacations.
- **Will my I-20 need to be updated if I start working on campus?** No. Your I-20 will not need to be updated if you start working on campus. But you need to be sure to notify your international advisor as soon as you accept on-campus employment.
- **Why do I need to notify my international advisor when I accept on-campus employment if my I-20 doesn't need to be updated?** Because your international advisor is going to provide you with a letter verifying your on-campus employment that you need to apply for your social security number.
- **Why do I need a social security number?** You must have a social security card if you want to get paid. To apply for a social security number you will need to complete an application and submit it with the letter from your international advisor.

Off-Campus Employment (economic hardship) FAQs

- **Am I eligible to apply for off-campus work (NOT CPT or OPT?)** You are eligible to apply for off-campus work that is not CPT or OPT only if you meet the below requirements:
 - You have maintained F-1 status for one full academic year
 - Must be suffering from severe unforeseen economic hardship

- Must be able to show that part-time on-campus employment opportunities are insufficient to meet your economic needs
 - You have already made an effort to find employment on campus
-
- **How many hours a week can I work at my off-campus job?** F-1 visa students are eligible to work up to 20 hours a week off-campus.
 - **How do I apply for off-campus employment?** If you meet all the requirements for off-campus employment due to economic hardship, make an appointment with your international advisor immediately to start the application process.

Curricular Practical Training (CPT) FAQs

- **Am I eligible to apply for CPT?**

degree and 12 months of OPT after you graduate with your graduate degree) unless you participated in full-time CPT in which case your OPT eligibility will be less.

- **How do I apply for OPT?** To apply for OPT, please refer to our OPT Student Checklist.