



International Student and Scholar Services  
University of San Francisco  
2130 Fulton Street, University Center 5<sup>th</sup>  
Floor San Francisco, CA 94117  
Tel: (415) 422-2654  
Website: <http://www.usfca.edu/iss>  
Email: [iss@usfca.edu](mailto:iss@usfca.edu)

TO: Vendor Representative or Prospective Landlord

RE: Opening account for/renting an apartment to a University of San Francisco International Student without a Social Security Number

Many vendors and landlords understandably have concerns about a prospective customer or tenant's financial solvency and therefore request a Social Security Number to run a credit history check. Due to strict changes in [Social Security Administration](#) regulations governing the issuance of [Social Security Numbers to nonimmigrants](#), students in F-1 or J-1 visa status are only allowed to receive Social Security Numbers if they have proof of on-campus employment or off-campus work authorization from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Many University of San Francisco international students have been in the United States for a short period of time and do not have such employment authorization. Therefore, they are not eligible for Social Security Numbers from the Social Security Administration.

However, an international student admitted to the University of San Francisco (USF) has proven his/her financial resources and support as part of the admission process. Additionally, any student in F-1 or J-1 visa status has evidenced his/her financial resource to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as part of the visa issuance process. **Both USF and DHS have accepted these students' evidence of financial support to cover his/her tuition and living expenses for one academic year. For the 2026-2027 academic year, USF has estimated living expenses at approximately \$26,000 (USD).**

An international student providing all the following materials in lieu of a Social Security Number to a vendor or prospective landlord demonstrates his/her financial creditworthiness:

1. This letter from the University of San Francisco's International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) office.
2. A *bank statement* of personal or sponsor's funds demonstrating monies to cover one year of program tuition and living expenses. The appropriate dollar amounts are as follows:
  - Undergraduate programs: \$90,500
  - Graduate programs average from: \$46,000 - \$90,000
3. Letter of acceptance from the University of San Francisco

ISSS asks that you will also accept this verification of financial support and give positive consideration of the services for which international students providing the above documentation qualify. In the event that you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at [iss@usfca.edu](mailto:iss@usfca.edu) or by phone at (415) 422- 2654.

Sincerely,

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