



Issues Applying for a Driver's License and Social Security Number

This handout by the Office of International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) was created to provide guidance for F-1 and J-1 international students if they experience issues when applying for a driver's license (DL) or social security number (SSN). The ISSS will offer information sessions the beginning of each fall and spring semester. For more information please attend these information sessions or go to [Employment/SSN](#) and scroll to the bottom or [Driver's License](#).

At the beginning of each fall and spring semester the ISSS is required by the Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) to report the enrollment of all F-1 and J-1 international students. The way we report a student's enrollment is through registration in the SEVIS system:

- Reporting must be completed no later than 30 days from the semester start date or I-20 start date for new students.
- We begin the SEVIS registration process the second week of classes and the process is generally completed by the end of the 3rd week of classes.
- The ISSS will send out an email notifying students when the process has been completed.
- Due to the sensitive nature of the process we **will not expedite** the SEVIS registration process.

Students that attempt to apply for a DL or SSN **prior** to the completion of SEVIS registration may experience issues when applying. Students are often told that "we cannot verify your status" or "report to your school to verify your status." If this occurs then you must take the following steps:

- Wait until the ISSS has completed the SEVIS registration process (an email will be sent) and apply again. Please note we **will not expedite** SEVIS registration.

OR

- Send an email to Intl.Stu@tamuc.edu (do not copy any alternate email) with the following information:
 - Full name
 - CWID
 - Nature of your issue
- We will review your SEVIS record within two business days to verify your status and email you.
- If your SEVIS record is valid and correct then you will need to contact USCIS at 1-800-375-5283 to resolve any issues.

PLEASE NOTE that when a student is referred back to the ISSS in most cases there is little we can do to resolve the issue. The DL and SSN offices utilize a system called SAVE to communicate with SEVIS and there have been consistent issues with this system. We generally cannot intervene with the DL or SSN office to resolve issues.