



USCIS EXPANDS PARTNERSHIP WITH SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

A NEW WAY TO APPLY FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER WITH YOUR USCIS APPLICATION



U.S. Citizenship Immigration Services (USCIS) recently announced that applicants for lawful permanent resident, or green card status are now able to apply for a Social Security number (SSN) or replacement card when filing a Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status.¹ Once the application is approved, USCIS will send the request electronically to the Social Security Administration (SSA), which will then assign a number and issue a new card by mail or send a replacement card directly to the applicant at the address listed on the form.

This change continues USCIS's partnership with the SSA, which previously saw an update to Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, that enabled applicants to simultaneously apply for work authorization and an SSN in October 2017.²

An SSN is required to work, collect social security benefits, and receive other government services. Some states will issue a driver's license without a social security number. An SSN is not required to register for school, obtain private health insurance, or apply for school lunch programs or subsidized housing.³



For more information on how to apply for an SSN, we encourage you to contact your immigration attorney or find a lawyer at <https://www.ailalawyer.org/>.

¹ <https://www.uscis.gov/news/news-releases/uscis-expands-partnership-with-social-security-administration>

² <https://www.uscis.gov/archive/new-uscis-form-streamlines-process-to-obtain-a-work-authorization-document-and-social-security>

³ <https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10096.pdf>