



Social Security Cards

The Social Security Administration will issue a “Valid for Work Only with DHS Authorization” social security card to any au pair/companion participating in a Department of State authorized au pair program. The purpose of this card is for program participation authorization under the terms of the au pair regulations.

To apply for a restricted working social security card, an au pair must go in person to the local social security office in their community. Some states may require au pairs to [apply online](#) first.

Your au pair can apply for their social security card four business days after arriving in the United States.

To obtain the social security card, your au pair will need the following:

- Valid Passport with J1 visa
- DS 2019 form
- I-94 card print out from the CBP website <https://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/i-94>
- Proof of identification that is at least one year old (e.g. passport, driver’s license, birth certificate)
- It is recommended that you bring your participation letter as some au pairs have needed this (you can download your participation letter on your au pair portal)
- If your au pair does not have an identification that is at least one year old a certified copy of their birth certificate will suffice

Social Security will verify the au pair’s status in SEVIS before a social security card number can be assigned.

In most states, au pairs need a social security card to obtain a driver’s license.

Au pairs need a social security card to file a tax return. As a reminder, filing a federal tax return is a Department of State regulation.

If there is a discrepancy with information, the social security office may deny the au pair a social security card and would request a manual verification of data, which would take additional time.

If the social security office says that they cannot issue a social security card and returns the application and documents, please call Fiorella Ciralli at Au Pair in America, (800) 928 -7247, ext. 5087, or email apiacompliance@aifs.com for further assistance.