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 our office at The Dutta Law Firm at (212) 495-9089.

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[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

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