Obtaining a Social Security Card for F-1 Visa Students

What do you need to have in order to qualify for a Social Security Card?

1. An offer or have been hired for an on-campus or off campus (CPT or OPT) job.
2. An I-20 with Curricular Practical Training (CPT) Authorization; or
3. An Employment Authorization Document (EAD) along with an I-20 with Optional Practical Training (OPT) authorization.

NOTE: Before you ask International Student Services for a support/authorization letter, make sure you obtain a letter from your hiring director.

Once you have the documents listed above and the letter from your hiring director, bring the following documents with you when you visit the Social Security Administration Office:

1. The offer/hiring letter from your prospective employer (in letterhead) , and please have your hiring director contact with ISS (International Student Service Office)
2. **For employment under CPT**, bring your SEVIS I-20 and the CPT authorization letter from the International Student Services
3. **For employment under OPT**, bring your Employment Authorization Document (EAD) from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
4. A valid Passport and your I-90
5. Most Recent I-20
6. Proof of address – This may come in the form of a rental contract, a bank statement with your name and address, an envelope with your name and address which you have received, or any other valid document with your name and address.

When you visit the Social Security Administration Office, comply present your document and follow any other instructions from the Social Security Administration Officer.