

After your arrival in the U.S., opening a bank account will be a priority.
Helpful guidelines and a list of local banks are listed below.

How to open a Bank Account

What you will need to submit?

1. Two (2) forms of identification with a picture (Passport and Student Visa)
2. Many banks may also require an additional ID - any of the following will do: Georgetown GoCard, credit card, international driver's license or international student ID.
3. Social Security Number (SSN). Since most of you do not have one, you will need to follow an additional procedure of filling out IRS Form W-8 BEN. This form is available from <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw8ben.pdf> and should be available at most banks.
4. Proof of residence in the US. If currently living at Gewirz, you can provide that address: Gewirz Student Center, 120 F. Street NW (plus your apartment number), Washington, DC 20001
5. Phone number in D.C. (Former students suggest trying to first get your cell phone and open the bank account afterwards. If not, you can also give any phone number where they can reach you).
6. Make a deposit that would vary depending on the Bank you choose.

Please take note that these are the general requirements necessary to open a bank account and they could vary depending in the bank you chose. Therefore, we strongly recommend calling the bank before visiting it.

Steps

- Determine what type of account(s) you want. The most typical accounts are checking and savings. A savings account allows you to deposit money and receive interest on the money held in the bank. A checking account generally does not generate interest, but allows you to write checks.
- Determine what services are important to you: low prices, Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) access, customer service by phone, Internet banking.
- Open your account(s) at a bank near your home or close to Georgetown so that it is convenient for you to make deposits, use an ATM or talk with bank employees.
- Consider how many ATMs the bank offers, if they charge a fee and whether 24-hour customer service is available by phone. On the Law Center campus, there are several Georgetown Federal Credit Union ATM's and a PNC bank ATM.

Account descriptions given are for the most basic service offered at that particular bank.

Information is subject to change.

Inclusion on this list does not imply endorsement by Georgetown Law Center.

<p>GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI & STUDENT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION. Main Campus; (202) 687-3898; www.guasfcu.com You must open a savings account with a minimum deposit of \$10 and pay a one-time \$5 membership fee. No monthly service charge. No minimum checking balance; unlimited checks per month. ATM transactions: 25¢ out of checking, 75¢ out of savings. No charge for Debit/Check card transactions. ATM in GULC next to cafeteria.</p>	<p>PNC: 833 7th Street, NW; (202) 835-5737; www.pncbank.com <i>Thrifty Checking:</i> \$25 to open. No minimum balance. \$4 monthly service charge. 10 free debit transactions per month, then 50¢ per debit transaction. Unlimited ATM cash withdrawals free at Riggs machines. All other ATM transactions are \$1.50. ATM in GULC next to cafeteria.</p>
<p>BANK OF AMERICA: 1001 Penn. Ave., NW; (202) 624-5090; www.bankofamerica.com <i>Student Checking:</i> \$25 deposit to open. \$3.95 monthly service charge. Unlimited check writing, unlimited ATM usage at Bank of America ATMs and free Check card.</p>	<p>CITIBANK: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE; (800) 926-1067; www.citibank.com <i>Basic Checking:</i> \$100 deposit to open. No minimum balance. \$3 monthly fee. Unlimited Citibank ATM withdrawals and checking. Point-of-sale transactions and PC banking are free</p>
<p>WACHOVIA: 444 North Capitol St., NW, (202) 637-2510 <i>College Express Account:</i> \$50 deposit to open. No monthly service fee. No minimum balance. Unlimited checks. 1 teller service per month. Free ATM or Check card at First Unions. Unlimited ATM or point-of-sale transactions. Inquire about other collegiate accounts.</p>	<p>SUNTRUST: 2 Mass. Ave. NW; (202) 879-6540; www.suntrust.com <i>Interest Checking:</i> unlimited check writing, ATM and check card access, and there is no monthly maintenance fee when balance requirements are met.</p>