




# U.S. banking essentials for international students

Going to another country for college is a big move, so it's important to find a convenient and safe way to access and manage your money.

With a U.S. bank account, you can:

 <p>Make purchases with a debit card, plus make deposits and get cash at ATMs.</p>	 <p>Use direct deposit to access your financial aid, scholarship funds, and paychecks faster than receiving a check.</p>	 <p>Potentially save on currency conversion rates and fees for international transactions.</p>
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**When selecting a bank, consider:**

- Convenient access to local branches and ATMs
- Security and customer service support
- Access to online banking and mobile app
- Account fees and benefits
- Reliability of international wires



## Choosing a bank account

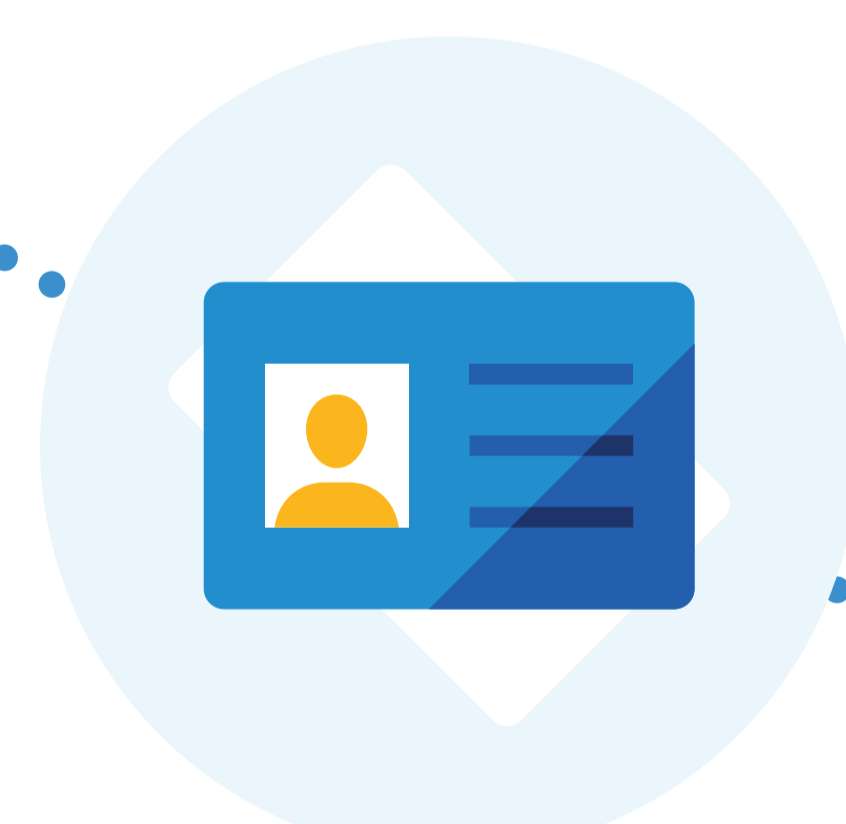
Two basic accounts you may want to consider are checking and savings.

 <p>Checking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideal for money you intend to use for day-to-day purchases like buying groceries, eating out with friends, or paying rent</li> <li>• Easily access your money with a debt card, at an ATM, or with payment apps</li> </ul>
 <p>Savings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ideal for saving money for larger purchases or unexpected expenses</li> <li>• Typically, earns interest helping your money grow</li> </ul>

[Learn more](#) about the differences between checking and savings accounts.

## How to open an account:

- 1 Gather all the necessary documents
- 2 Visit a local [branch](#)
  - Plan to spend about an hour opening your account
  - To save time, consider [scheduling a meeting](#) with a banker ahead of time
- 3 Fund the account with cash, a wire transfer, or a certified check



**The documents you may need to open an account**

*(Check with your bank to confirm)*

- Proof of a U.S. residential address  
*(Your school's main address typically can't be used as your residential address, but a dormitory address should be ok)*
- Two forms of ID**
  - Primary ID with photo  
*(e.g., passport or U.S. Employment Authorization Card)*
  - Secondary ID  
*(e.g., U.S. driver's license with current address, INS I-20, or ICE I-20)*
- Proof of college or university status  
*(e.g., current student ID or acceptance letter)*
- Contact information

[Explore Chase College Checking<sup>SM</sup>](#)



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