Click the “International Students” Drop Down Menu
While in the U.S. you may need “certified true copies” of original documents.

Student Legal Service provides document certification services

- Fill out and submit intake form Online
- Bring your ORIGINAL document or documents to the Student Legal Service Offices.
- Do NOT bring in photocopies; they cannot be certified.
Types of documents:

- Passport pages
- U of I Academic transcripts
- Proof of enrollment or grades
- Academic transcripts from other universities
- U.S. government documents
  - For example, I-20, DS-2019
- Birth Records
- Marriage licenses

You MUST bring in the ORIGINAL to get a CERTIFIED copy.
Ameren – to set up an account for electricity

- As of July, 2019, Certified Photocopies no longer accepted
  - Digital upload, only
  - NetVerify

Ameren.com/Illinois/account/customer-service/netverify/create-netverify

- Identification documents
  - Passport, US Visa, U.S. Driver License, State ID
  - iCard
  - Picture of yourself – selfie ok

- Student Legal Service can make digital photocopies
  - Submit “General” intake form
  - No appointment required, walk-in basis
Driving in Illinois

- Home Country/International License
  - Valid in Illinois and while enrolled University of Illinois as a student
  - License must not be "expired" to be valid.
  - Must have home country/international driver's license in your possession while driving
  - May not be valid in other U.S. States

- Spouse and children
  - May lawfully drive in Illinois
  - They MUST have their own license.
  - Your University enrollment permits this.
Driving in Illinois

Passport & No Valid License
- NOT required to carry passport
- Ticket/citation for “No Valid License”
- Submit “Traffic Ticket or Accident” intake form online
- Bring
  - your home country/international license
  - Your iCard
  - Your Passport with U.S. Visa in it

General Advice
- Translate home country license to English
  - Certify translation – SLS has form for translator
- Carry translation when driving, along with ACTUAL license.
Driving in Illinois

- Road Test
  - Must request and schedule in person at the DMV
  - Must have a vehicle
  - Must have proof of insurance on your vehicle
  - Weather and Time permitting
  - If 18-21
    - Proof of completion of 6 hours of driver’s education
    - If over 21, not required
Driving in Illinois

- Study Materials
  - Illinois Rules of the Road (2019 ed.)
  - Illinois Rules of the Road Review Course
- Translations
  - Polish and Spanish available on Secretary of State website
  - Chinese translation available at SLS website
Common Traffic Tickets

• No Valid Driver’s License
  – Make an appointment with SLS
  – Bring
    • Proof of license:
      – Valid home country license
      – International Driver’s License
      – Temporary visitor's license
    • iCard
    • Passport containing your current U.S. Visa
  – Likelihood of dismissal
Common Traffic Tickets

• Speeding

– Speed limits are posted in Miles Per Hour (MPH), no KM/H.
– Being unfamiliar with MPH is NOT a defense to speeding.
– Conversion Chart:
  • 20 mph = 32.2 km/h – School bus zones
  • 25 mph = 40.2 km/h – Campus area streets
  • 30 mph = 48.3 km/h – Many residential streets
  • 55 mph = 88.5 km/h – Many rural roads
  • **60 mph = 95.6 km/h – I-74 between Cunningham Ave. and I-57**
  • 65 mph = 104.6 km/h – Some interstate highways
  • 70 mph = 112.7 km/h – Many interstate highways
Common Traffic Tickets

- Speeding
- I-74, I-57 to Cunningham Ave.

60 MPH or 95 KM/H
Common Traffic Tickets

- Speeding – Criminal Violations
  - 26 MPH but less than 35 MPH over the limit
    - Class B Misdemeanor
    - Up to 180 Days in Jail
    - Maximum Fine $1,500.00
  - 35 MPH and higher over the limit
    - Class A Misdemeanor
    - Up to 364 Days in Jail
    - Maximum Fine $2,500.00
Common Traffic Tickets

• No Valid Insurance
  o Valid Auto Insurance is required to drive in Illinois.
    o Includes vehicles owned by others
  o Police will ask you for proof of insurance if you are stopped
    o Proof not in vehicle at the time of the stop
    o Likely will be dismissed after providing proof
  o If you did not have valid insurance, you must get it.
    o Insurance Agent will advise what type of insurance satisfies Illinois requirements
Common Traffic Tickets

• “Distracted Driving” Law
  o Cannot use an electronic communication device while operating a vehicle on a roadway
    o Includes while stopped in traffic or at a stoplight
  o A Cell phone is an Electronic Communication Device
  o 2019 – Change in the Law
    o First violation is now a “moving” violation
Common Traffic Tickets

• Private Party Vehicle Use Tax
  (for buying a used car from a person, not a dealer)
  
  o Tax for the privilege of using a vehicle in Illinois
    o Purchase price or fair market value
    o Exceptions for transfers between certain family members

  o Form RUT-50
    o Available at DMV or Currency Exchange
    o https://www2.illinois.gov/rev/forms/sales/Pages/rut25.aspx
IMMIGRATION

Deportable/Removable Offenses

- Offenses with a potential jail sentence greater than 1 year
- Jail sentence does not have to be served to quality for deportability/removability.

Examples:
- Drugs/firearms trafficking
- Murder
- Rape
- Fraud
- Felony Theft
- Violent felonies too numerous to list
- Multiple convictions from separate incidents for offenses that carry up to one year in jail.
IMMIGRATION

Typically Non-Deportable/Non-Removable Offenses

- Driving under the influence of alcohol/drug (DUI)
- Driving under suspended license (DUS)
- Traffic Tickets
  - Speeding, stop sign/light, lane usage, invalid license, etc.
- Shoplifting (theft)
  - Where the potential sentence is less than one year in jail.
- Possession of drug paraphernalia
  - Where the potential sentence is less than one year in jail
Typically Non-Deportable/Non-Removable Offenses

- Underage drinking or possession of alcohol
  - City Ordinance Violation or Misdemeanor

- Tresspass

- Disorderly conduct

- Resisting/Obstructing police
Exclusion Offenses

- Any deportable/removable offense
- “Moral turpitude” offenses
  - Acts defined by law as inherently wrong, for example, “theft”
  - Elements include fraud, intent to harm, larceny
  - Examples: Arson, Domestic Battery, Armed Robbery, Sexual Assault, Burglary

- Being arrested, detained, investigated by police does not automatically prevent entry or re-entry into the U.S.
“Conviction”

- Conviction does not require a formal trial
- Finding by judge or jury of guilt is a "conviction" for exclusion purposes by the U.S. consulate if the offense involves moral turpitude.
- A negotiated guilty plea is a conviction.
- Granting of "Court Supervision" with admission of facts sufficient to find guilt is a conviction.
- Imposition of a penalty is also an element of "conviction"
- Not all convictions result in exclusion
IMMIGRATION

“Failure to Appear” Warrant

– Failing to appear in Court usually results in a warrant for your arrest
– The warrant is shared with other government agencies.
– Consulates may require a police report or answer questions about the activity that caused the warrant to issue.
– Student Legal Service may be able to assist you in obtaining and transmitting these records while you are detained or awaiting clearance to enter the U.S.
Expungement

- Illinois permits offenses to be Expunged from your record.
  - “Arrest" but no formal charge
  - Cases with sentence to "Court Supervision"
- Generally, two year waiting period after sentence is completed
- Obtain certified copies of court documents before filing expungement
- U.S. Government
  - Not required to recognize Illinois expungements in deciding to exclude your return to the U.S.
Individual Tax Identification Number - ITIN

- ITIN is an ID number issued by the IRS for individuals not eligible for a Social Security Number (SSN)
  - Spouse, children and other dependents of non-citizen with an SSN
- ITIN allows personal tax filing or to receive tax refund from income withholdings
- ITIN can also be used to open bank accounts and apply for loans
Individual Tax Identification Number - ITIN

- ITIN is NOT a substitute for an SSN
- You CANNOT have both an ITIN and an SSN
- Cannot be used to obtain a driver's license or Social Security benefits
- ITIN does not change your immigration status
- ITIN does not change your right to work in the United States
Individual Tax Identification Number - ITIN

ITIN Application
- Completed Form W-7
- Original tax return(s)
- Original identification documents or certified copies
  - Original passport OR
  - Two or more unexpired documents that show your name and photograph and support your claim of identity and foreign status
Individual Tax Identification Number - ITIN

ITIN Application

- IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers in Illinois
  - Chicago
  - Downers Grove
  - Orland Park
  - Schiller Park
  - Springfield

- Every person needing a ITIN must appear in person at the IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center, as well as the family person with an SSN, if there is one.
Individual Tax Identification Number - ITIN

ITIN Application

o Certifying Acceptance Agents and Acceptance Agents in Central Illinois
  - Champaign
  - Urbana
  - Savoy
  - Bloomington

  They charge a fee for filling out the W-7 form, certifying photocopies of ID documents, and filing the W-7 for you.

o A list of these Agents in or near Champaign-Urbana is available at:

  odos.illinois.edu/sls/resources/brochures/docs/IRS-certified-acceptance-agents.pdf