

OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

What to bring to the bank



- PASSPORT
- I-94 CARD
- I-20 OR DS-2019
- CCA STUDENT ID CARD
- CASH OR CHECK TO DEPOSIT
(SUGGESTED AMOUNT: \$25 OR MORE)
- PROOF OF LOCAL ADDRESS IN THE U.S.
(E.G. HOUSING CONTRACT, UTILITY BILL)

To open a U.S. bank account, you will be asked to show proof of identification and local residency. Documentation requirements vary from bank to bank. Listed above are the common documents. Most major San Francisco and Oakland banks do not require a social security number (SSN) or individual tax identification number (ITIN) to open a bank account. To ensure a smooth process, it is advisable to go in-person to open an account.

What to consider when selecting a bank



- HOW CLOSE ARE THE ATM LOCATIONS TO WHERE I LIVE?
- ARE THE BRANCH LOCATIONS AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE OR PRIMARILY LOCAL?
- HOW ACCESSIBLE IS THIS BANK WITH MY HOME COUNTRY BANK?

There are many local banks within walking distance from the San Francisco and Oakland campuses. Each bank offers various financial services and conveniences. Check out the link to learn more.

Student Recommended Banks



BANK OF AMERICA, CHASE, WELLS FARGO

Bank of America requires small deposit and minimum balance in account. Chase offers checks from home and bank clear the same day. Wells Fargo offers free checking accounts and many ATM locations.

Key Things to Know



TWO BASIC TYPES OF ACCOUNTS:
CHECKING AND SAVINGS

Checking accounts allow you to make day-to-day deposits and withdrawals. It typically comes with a debit/ATM card and personal checks that are linked to your checking account. Please advise that depending on the bank, there may be a minimum monthly balance requirement and overdraft fees included.

Saving accounts allow you to earn interest on the money you deposit. It is however not for everyday use. The number of transactions are limited and interest accrued depends on each bank.

DO NOT KEEP A LARGE AMOUNT OF CASH

To ensure that money does not get stolen or lost, it is best not to carry a large amount of cash in your wallet or keep in your apartment/ residence halls. Secure your money in your bank for safety purposes.