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MAIN WEBPAGE OF STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES

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Click the “International Students” Drop Down Menu



DOCUMENT CERTIFICATION

- 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.





DOCUMENT CERTIFICATION

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.





DOCUMENT CERTIFICATION

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](https://www.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
 - www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/motorist/rorts.html
- 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

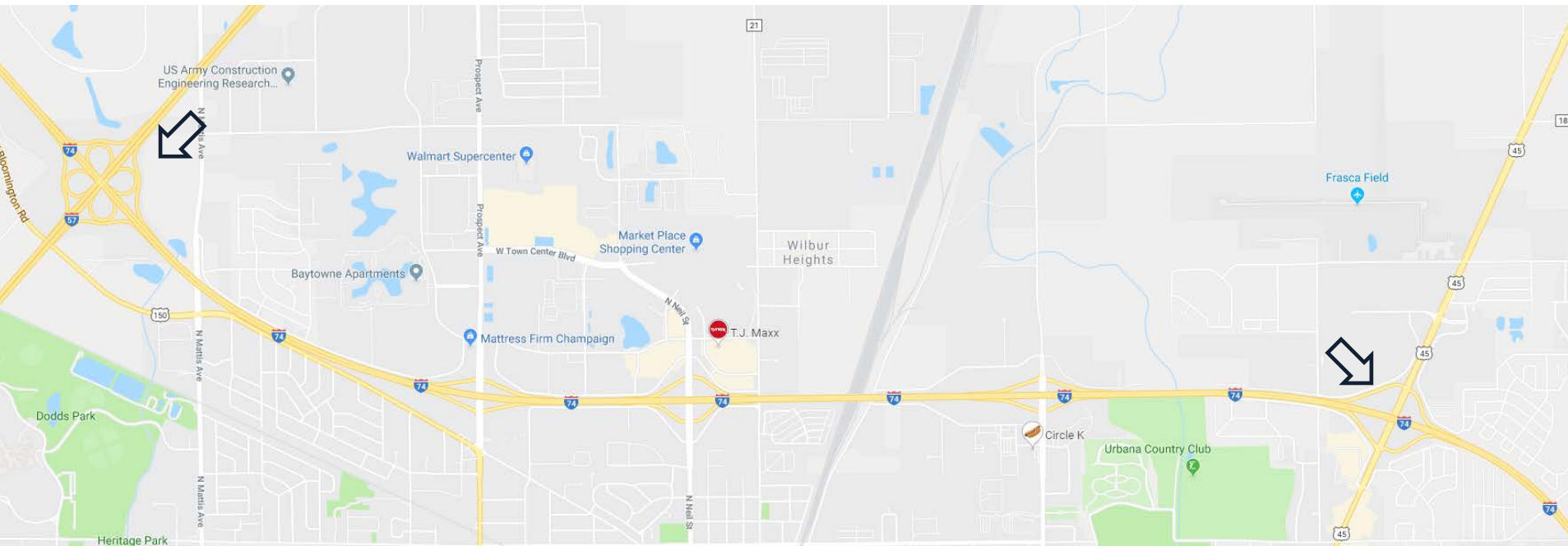




Common Traffic Tickets



- 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 Day in Jail
 - Maximum Fine \$2,500.00





Common Traffic Tickets



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



Common Traffic Tickets



- “Distracted Driving” Law
 - Cannot use an electronic communication device while operating a vehicle on a roadway
 - Includes while stopped in traffic or at a stoplight
 - A Cell phone is an Electronic Communication Device
 - 2019 – Change in the Law
 - 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)
 - Tax for the privilege of using a vehicle in Illinois
 - Purchase price or fair market value
 - Exceptions for transfers between certain family members
 - Form RUT-50
 - Available at DMV or Currency Exchange
 - <https://www2.illinois.gov/rev/forms/sales/Pages/rut25.aspx>

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Deportable/Removable Offenses

- Offenses with a potential jail sentence greater than 1 year
- Jail sentence does not have to be served to qualify 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



IMMIGRATION



Typically Non-Deportable/Non-Removable Offenses

- Underage drinking or possession of alcohol
 - City Ordinance Violation or Misdemeanor
- Trespass
- Disorderly conduct
- Resisting/Obstructing police



IMMIGRATION



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.



IMMIGRATION



“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.



IMMIGRATION



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

- Certifying Acceptance Agents and Acceptance Agents in Central Illinois

- Champaign

- Savoy

- Urbana

- Bloomington

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

- 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



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Student Legal Services

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