

## Opening a U.S. Bank Account

Most international students find it convenient to open a bank account in the United States while they're studying at North Park. Having a local bank account will make it easier for you to pay bills and get paper money without paying large transaction or transfer fees.

Many banks in the United States require individuals to have a U.S. Social Security Number before opening an account. Chase Bank, a large U.S. bank with a branch office near North Park, does not have this requirement. The nearest Chase Bank is located at 4843 N. Kedzie, two blocks south of Helwig Recreation Center.

You will need the following items to open an account at Chase Bank:

- Your passport
- Your I-20 or DS-2019 form
- A letter from the International Office, verifying your student status
- A deposit (for most accounts, you will need \$25 in US currency to open an account)

Also check with the International Office for special deals; we often have coupons from Chase Bank that will give you additional money toward your account.

### Bank Accounts

There are two main types of bank accounts—checking accounts and savings accounts. Most students are interested in a Checking Account. A checking account will come with a checkbook (a book of paper checks) or a debit card so you can pay for purchases. These accounts do not usually earn interest, but they require only a small deposit to start. Most accounts will also come with an ATM card, which enables you to get US currency from cash machines on campus and around the city.

### Paying North Park Bills

If you are looking for ways to pay your bill at North Park, please note that the University no longer accepts Visa branded credit or debit cards. All other credit cards (Master Card, Discover, and American Express) will be subject to a 2.5% fee in addition to your original charge. If you are opening a new bank account that includes a debit card, ask for a MasterCard brand so you can use it to pay any bills at North Park.

You may also wire money from your bank account to North Park's bank account. You should provide the following information to your bank:

Bank Name: JP Morgan/Chase, Chicago

SWIFT Code: CHASUS33

Account Name: North Park University

Account Number: 20035683

**\*\*Be sure to include your name and North Park student ID number on any wire transfer so we can credit the payment to the right account!**