Policy Statement on the Collection and Use of Social Security Numbers

The Identity Protection Act (5 ILCS 179/1 et seq.) requires each local and State government agency to draft, approve, and implement an Identity-Protection Policy that includes a statement of the purpose or purposes for which the agency is collecting and using an individual’s Social Security number (SSN). This statement of purpose is being provided to you because you have been asked by Southern Illinois University to provide your SSN or because you requested a copy of this statement.

Why do we collect your Social Security number?

You are being asked for your SSN for one or more of the following reasons:

- Student Financial Aid
- Employment matters
- Insurance Claim
- Complaint mediation or investigation
- Vendor services, such as executing contracts and/or billing
- Law enforcement investigation
- Child support collection
- Internal verification
- Administrative services
- Other: ______________________________

What do we do with your Social Security number?

We will only use your SSN for the purpose for which it was collected.¹ We will not:

- Sell, lease, loan, trade, or rent your SSN to a third party for any purpose
- Publicly post or display your SSN
- Print your SSN on any card required for you to access our services
- Require you to transmit your SSN over the Internet, unless the connection is secure or your SSN is encrypted
- Print your SSN on any materials that are mailed to you, unless State or Federal law requires that number to be on documents mailed to you, or unless we are confirming the accuracy of your SSN²

¹ Exceptions include, but are not limited to: disclosure pursuant to a court order, warrants, or subpoena; disclosure to ensure safety; disclosure for internal verification or administrative purposes; disclosure for collection of delinquent child support or of any state debt or to a governmental agency to assist with an investigation or the prevention of fraud; and disclosure to investigate or prevent fraud, to conduct background checks, to collect debt, to obtain a credit report, as allowable under the federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, and to locate missing persons who are due benefits, such as a pension or unclaimed property.

² Exceptions include, but are not limited to: material mailed in connection with the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Act; material mailed in connection with any tax administered by the Department of Revenue; and documents sent as part of an application or enrollment process or to establish, amend, or terminate an account, contract, or policy or to confirm the accuracy of the SSN.

Questions or Comments about this Statement of Purpose?

Please contact:

Southern Illinois University
Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance
Anthony Hall, Mail Code 4315
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 453-2474