

Banks

Types of bank accounts

Below are the types of bank accounts you can have. Note that you can have all types of accounts at the same time.

- **Checking Account**

- Good for when you want to spend money.
- Can transfer and receive money.
- Can withdraw money at the bank/ATM.
- Can write cheques to pay bills, other people, etc.
- Linked to a debit card with Visa/Master and can be used for transactions in stores, restaurants, online, etc.
- Most banks have online/app features to transfer and receive money online, as well as checking the balance.

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- **Savings Account**

- Good for when you want to save money.
- Can transfer and receive money.
- Can withdraw money at the bank/ATM.
- No cheques.
- Linked to an ATM card, no Visa/Master feature so can't be used in stores.
- Most banks have online/app features to transfer and receive money online, as well as checking the balance.

Our suggestion is for you to only make a **checking account** for daily use and put just enough for your day to day transactions. And make a **savings account** only if necessary and for the purpose of larger transactions such as paying your school fees, etc.

Opening a bank account

Here are a list of items you **must** bring to the bank in order to open a new bank account:

1. Passport
2. I-20
3. Physical Pratt ID (Student Card)
4. Proof of Residency:
 - a. If you are living on campus, please bring printouts of:
 - i. Dorm Assignment Letter
 - ii. Housing Bill receipt (Can be found on one.pratt.edu under 'Pay my Bill')

- iii. An email from ResLife that confirms you are staying in dorms which also shows your mailing address and information written on it (you have to email ResLife personally in order to obtain this)
- b. If you are living off campus, please bring your utility bill

Popular Bank Brands

- **Citibank**

<https://www.citi.com/>

Closest Location to Pratt (15mins walk from campus):

Citibank, 430 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205

- **Chase**

<https://www.chase.com/>

Closest Location to Pratt (15mins walk from campus):

Chase Bank, 402 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205

- **Bank of America**

<https://www.bankofamerica.com/>

Closest Locations to Pratt (10mins walk from campus):

Bank of America Financial Center, 449 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205

Bank of America Financial Center, 120 Flatbush Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11217

- **TD Bank**

<https://www.td.com/us/en/personal-banking/>

Closest Location to Pratt (6mins walk from campus):

TD Bank, 490 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205

Pratt also has a TD Bank ATM in between the Student Union and Canteen buildings (on the outside)

- **Wells Fargo**

<https://www.wellsfargo.com/>

Closest Location to Pratt (25mins walk from campus):

Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, 206 7th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11215

Phone Plans

Types of plans

- **Prepaid Plans**

- Paid upfront.

- There are options for unlimited data, call, & text.
- Most people use this to avoid the shock of having a large bill at the end of the month.
- Some carriers would offer extra benefits like free HBO Max/Netflix, etc.

- **Postpaid Plans**

- Paid upfront.
- There are options for unlimited data, call, & text.
- May require a SSN (Social security number) to be able to get a postpaid plan

- **Shared Data vs. Unlimited**

- Shared data is cheaper if you plan to have only 1 line, but if you plan to have a couple of lines it might be good to look into an unlimited plan. This however means you might need to get a couple of friends together on a phone plan.
- For more info:

<https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/reviews/best-wireless-carrier/>

Getting a Phone Plan

Here are a list of items you **must** bring to the phone shop to get a new phone plan:

- Passport
- I-20
- Mailing address
- Debit/credit card to charge the monthly plan to.
- If you want a postpaid plan you may need an SSN

Popular Phone Carriers

- **Verizon**

<https://www.verizon.com/solutions-and-services/international-student/>

Closest Location to Pratt:

Verizon, Atlantic Terminal, 139 Flatbush Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11217

- **AT&T**

<https://www.att.com/offers/discount-program/international-students/>

Closest Location to Pratt:

AT&T Store, 476-478 Fulton St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

- **T-mobile**

<https://www.t-mobile.com/cell-phone-plans>

Closest Location to Pratt:

T-Mobile, 436 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205

- **Sprint (Under T-mobile)**

<https://www.sprint.com/landings/international-student/>

Closest Location to Pratt:

T-Mobile, 436 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205

- **Mint Mobile**

<https://www.mintmobile.com/>

Online

- **US Mobile**

<https://www.usmobile.com/>

Online