

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · CLIFTON

Clifton Car Registration, Inspection and E-ZPass Guide 2026

For cars brought from another state, cars bought in New Jersey, and anyone driving into Manhattan over the George Washington Bridge.

SHORT ANSWER

New residents have 60 days to register a vehicle after moving to New Jersey, the same deadline as the license transfer. The order is: New Jersey insurance, an MVC appointment (Wayne, Paterson and Lodi take no walk-ins), Form BA-49 and a title application. The title fee is \$60. Vehicle inspection is required every 2 years; the open stations closest to Clifton are Wayne and Paramus. Drivers entering Manhattan over the George Washington Bridge do not get NYC's congestion-pricing crossing credit.

Step by step

- 1 Get New Jersey insurance.** Standard Policy minimums: \$35,000 per person / \$70,000 per accident bodily injury, \$25,000 property damage. A cheaper Basic Policy has no bodily-injury liability by default (an optional \$10,000 can be added), and \$5,000 property damage.
- 2 Book an MVC appointment** at telegov.njportal.com/njmvc. No MVC office registers a vehicle without one.
- 3 Complete Form BA-49.** Bring the title, your license or ID (6 Points of ID), your insurance card or company name and policy number, a power of attorney if needed, and lienholder information. If you are moving from another state, you also need the "Application for Certificate of Ownership."
- 4** Pay the title and registration fees.

Fees (2026)

ITEM	AMOUNT
Title fee	\$60 standard, \$85 with one lien, or \$110 with two liens if financed
Electric vehicle annual fee	Starts at \$250 and rises \$10 a year for the next 4 years, due in full at registration and every renewal

For sales-tax questions, contact the NJ Division of Taxation: 609-984-6206.

The 60-day rule for new residents

After moving to New Jersey, transfer your out-of-state license and register your vehicle here within 60 days, or before your current license and registration expire, whichever comes first.

Vehicle inspection

- General rule: every 2 years. New vehicles are exempt for their first 5 model years.
- Fully electric vehicles and motorcycles are exempt from inspection entirely.
- The open stations closest to Clifton are Wayne (481 Route 46 West) and Paramus (20 W. Century Road). The Lodi station is temporarily closed and the Newark station is permanently closed; do not go to either.
- Bring a valid license, a valid registration, and your New Jersey insurance card (an e-card is fine); all must be originals.

An expired inspection sticker is not penalized at the station itself, but if you are stopped you can face a \$100 to \$200 fine or up to 30 days in jail, and the MVC can revoke your registration.

E-ZPass NJ and bridge or tunnel crossings

E-ZPass NJ is the regional tag, with a \$1 monthly account fee and no sign-up requirement for the Standard Plan. Without a tag, a plate-photo bill is generally mailed to the vehicle's registered owner within about 30 days of the trip.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE WARNING

- The George Washington Bridge is the natural route into Manhattan from Clifton and Passaic County, but it does not qualify for NYC's congestion-pricing crossing credit.
- Drivers who cross via the Lincoln Tunnel, Holland Tunnel or the two NYC-side tunnels get up to \$3 off the peak toll; George Washington Bridge users get no credit at all.
- The Congestion Relief Zone (Manhattan south of and including 60th Street) toll is \$9 at peak (5 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekends) and \$2.25 overnight.
- Check njta.com and panynj.gov/bridges-tunnels directly for the current NJ Turnpike, Garden State Parkway and George Washington Bridge toll rates.

Discount plans through E-ZPass NJ include the Senior Citizens Discount Plan (65+) and the Green Pass Discount Plan for low-emission vehicles. Customer service: (888) 288-6865.

NOTE FOR IMMIGRANTS

After you move, update the address on your vehicle registration and your E-ZPass account. If you are subject to the address-reporting requirement, you must also report your new address to USCIS within 10 days (AR-11).



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN CLIFTON, NJ

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Clifton and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

Office: 321 N Central Expy, Ste 206, McKinney, TX 75070

Attorney responsible for this guide: Asim Clinch, Esq., Clinch Law Firm P.C. Attorney Asim Clinch is a member of the Missouri Bar (No. 76084) and practices U.S. federal immigration law.

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