

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · DALLAS

Dallas Car Registration, Inspection and TollTag Guide 2026

For cars brought from another state or country, cars bought in Texas, and Dallas toll roads.

SHORT ANSWER

New residents have 30 days to register a vehicle in Texas. The order is: Texas insurance (at least 30/60/25), an emissions test (required in Dallas County), then title and registration at the Dallas County Tax Office with Form 130-U. Safety inspections ended on January 1, 2025. A car previously registered in another state or country pays a one-time \$90 new resident tax.

Step by step

- 1 Buy Texas insurance.** Minimum liability: \$30,000 per person, \$60,000 per accident, \$25,000 property damage.
- 2 Get an emissions test.** Required yearly in 17 counties including Dallas, Collin, Denton and Tarrant for gas vehicles 2 to 24 years old; up to \$18.50. Find a station: [DPS station locator](#).
- 3 Complete Form 130-U.** [txdmv.gov Form 130-U](https://www.txdmv.gov/Form-130-U).
- 4 Visit the tax office.** Dallas County offices are walk-in and post live wait times.
- 5 Then get your license.** TxDMV lists vehicle registration first.

What to bring

DOCUMENT	NOTES
☐ Previous title or registration	For out-of-state cars, that state's title or registration.
☐ Form 130-U	Completed and signed.
☐ Photo ID	Passport, driver's license or Texas ID.
☐ Proof of Texas insurance	At least 30/60/25.
☐ Emissions test report	Required in Dallas County.
☐ Lienholder information	If the car is financed.
☐ Odometer reading	If the vehicle is under 10 years old.

Fees (2026)

ITEM	AMOUNT
Annual registration (passenger car)	\$51.75 + county fees
Title application, Dallas County	\$33
New resident tax	\$90, once
Inspection program replacement fee	\$7.50 per year
Emissions test	up to \$18.50
Sales tax on a car bought in Texas	6.25%
Electric vehicle fee	\$200 per year
Card payment fee	2.05% (minimum \$2.85)

Dallas County tax offices

OFFICE	ADDRESS
Downtown	500 Elm St, Suite 1200, Dallas 75202
North Dallas	6820 LBJ Fwy, Suite 1300, Dallas 75240
Oak Cliff	702 E. Jefferson Blvd, Suite 1100, Dallas 75203
South Dallas	8301 S. Polk St, Suite 1000, Dallas 75232
Garland	140 N. Garland Ave, Suite 101, Garland 75040
Grand Prairie	106 W. Church St, Suite 105, Grand Prairie 75050
Mesquite	500 S. Galloway Ave, Suite T101, Mesquite 75149

Phone: 214-653-7811. Wait times: dallascounty.org/departments/tax/branch-wait.php. If you live in Plano, Frisco or McKinney, use the Collin County tax office.

Importing a car from abroad

- Customs entry form (CBP Form 7501) and DOT Form HS-7.
- VIN inspection by the Dallas County Sheriff (Form VTR-68-A, about \$40).
- Certified English translations of foreign documents.
- The one-time \$90 new resident tax.

TollTag: Dallas toll roads

Most Dallas toll roads belong to NTTA and have no booths. Without a tag, a ZipCash bill goes to the plate owner at twice the TollTag rate.

TOPIC	DETAILS
Tag price	Free
Account options	\$10 or \$20 (one vehicle, auto-refill at \$5), \$40 (up to three vehicles)
How to open	ntta.org , TollMate app, customer service centers, 972-818-6882
Where it works	All Texas toll roads, plus Oklahoma, Kansas and most roads in Florida and Colorado
Rental cars	Can be added, but tolls are charged at the ZipCash rate
Late fees	25 days to pay ZipCash. First notice +\$10, second +\$25

NOTE FOR IMMIGRANTS

Toll bills go to the address on your vehicle registration, so update it after you move. 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 DALLAS

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients across Dallas-Fort Worth from our McKinney office, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669
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