

CHECKLIST · ELIZABETHTOWN

Moving to Elizabethtown: The First 30 Days Checklist (2026)

One question opens the whole list: which side of the city limit is your address on? Write the answer down, because it comes back in your taxes, your school and your property tax bill.

SHORT ANSWER

Open this list with one question: which side of the **city limit** is your address on? Here that question decides three things at once - **the 1.95 percent local occupational tax withheld from your wages, which school district your child falls into and which rates your property tax bill carries. On top of that the city annexes**, so the limit is not fixed. **The second sentence is about utilities:** there is no single utility agency here, there are **four separate doors** - gas with the city, water with a county district, electricity with a cooperative, and **the city announces no weekly household trash collection. The third is transportation:** there is **no fixed route bus service** in this city, which makes the driver license more urgent here than in other cities. The list below covers the first thirty days.

Day one

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Look your address up on the city's map application	The city has its own GIS unit and publishes a map application showing the city limits. Do it before you sign a lease or make an offer: the city limit decides your tax, your school and your property tax rates at once, and the city annexes
☐ Register for the alert system	The county's system runs from Hardin County's E911 center. An email address is required to register and there is no text keyword . Enter your address correctly: these systems target geographically
☐ Gather your documents in one folder	Passports, immigration documents, birth certificates, previous school records, immunization records. The licensing office's sentence is "All documentation must be in the original form" - photocopies are not accepted
☐ Plan one notary visit	At least three things here need a notary: a notarized lease for water, a notarized membership form for electricity, and notarized translations of Turkish documents for the license. Do them all in one visit

First week: four utility doors

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Open the gas account in person	Gas is the city's own department . The agency's sentence uses " visit "; the only document required is valid photo identification , the deposit is \$100 and it is not refunded in cash but applied to the final bill at closing. There is disconnection without notice 10 days past due and restoration can take up to 72 business hours
☐ Call first, then apply for water	Your counterpart is not the city but a county water district . A foreign passport is not on the accepted identification list - what it names is a state ID, a U.S. passport and a military ID - and the agency writes that it " will verify " an applicant's number. The agency does not say it cannot be done; the page does not address either situation. Call 270-737-1056 before you move and ask both questions directly
☐ Have your lease notarized	The water district's sentence: " Handwritten leases are not acceptable proof of residency. " The first and last pages of the lease are uploaded separately; uploading extra pages delays the application
☐ Budget the water charges	A \$20 nonrefundable account fee and a \$60 deposit; the agency's sentence reads " NO DEPOSITS WILL BE BILLED AND MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE. " Paying by card adds a \$2.95 processing fee. The deposit is returned when the account closes or after two years of good payment history, with interest. For a military family the deposit is waived entirely with orders
☐ Ask about the prepay rate for electricity	The area's electricity comes from a cooperative: two forms of identification, a Social Security number and a notarized membership form . The prepay rate carries no deposit ; a monthly billed account at a new address can carry \$400.00 . No alternative for an applicant without a number was found on the page - we do not say it cannot be done, call and ask
☐ Give the Declaration of Domicile to each provider separately	The form goes directly to the provider , not to the revenue department - here that means at least three places : gas, electricity and water. The exemption starts with the first full billing period after the provider receives the form and there is no retroactive correction
☐ Call the city about trash	The city announces no weekly household collection and whether a weekly hauler is under contract with the city could not be verified. We do not say there is no trash collection. Ask one question: <i>what do I need to do for household trash at this address?</i> City hall 270-765-6121 , Public Works 270-737-7890 - ask your landlord the same question, before you sign
☐ Open mail forwarding	Forwarding is not a notification. For the online application your card's billing address must match the old or new address; if it does not, go to a post office with photo identification. It takes 7 to 10 business days to take effect

First month: license and vehicle

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Start the driver license process	The agency says 30 days . The city has its own office: 916 N Mulberry St , weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. An appointment can be made at any office in the state , but if you go west or south ask about the time zone

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ If you arrived on a Turkish license, prepare for the testing set	Turkey is not on the reciprocity list; the consequence is not a course but vision, written and road tests and starting from a learner permit . A Green Card holder may be exempt from the road test. Turkish is not among the written test languages, but an audio or oral test is possible
☐ Register the car	In order: Kentucky insurance (an original, issued no more than 45 days ago), then the sheriff's inspection (\$15, plus \$1.50 on a card), then the Hardin County Clerk, 150 N Provident Way, Suite 103 . The same official page says both 10 and 15 days - work to the tenth day
☐ Budget the vehicle tax	Inside the city the total rate is 1.256 percent . Overdue tax on one vehicle also locks the renewal of your others
☐ Consider the ID card too	If you hold a Kentucky ID card you match the water district's identification list exactly. This is the most practical move connecting two tasks

Right away: children and health

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Enroll your children	There are two districts here - the city's Elizabethtown Independent and the county's Hardin County Schools - and your address decides which one . Enrollment is residence based . A passport is explicitly accepted and the Social Security card is "(optional)"
☐ Plan the four school health documents	Immunization record within two weeks of enrollment (30 days for military families), eye and dental exams by January 1 . An out-of-state immunization record can be transcribed onto the Kentucky form at the county health department or by a local physician
☐ Apply for health coverage	The five year waiting period does not apply to children or pregnant people - the document's own heading reads "Five Year Bar Does Not Apply for Lawfully Present Children or Pregnant Immigrants." Immigrant eligibility narrowed as of October 1, 2026 and the same narrowing reaches marketplace subsidies on January 1, 2027 . Application help is free

First month: money and contracts

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Read your pay stub	The city's sentence: "employees are required to pay a 1.95% occupational tax for wages earned within the City limits." The test is not where you live but where the income is earned. The rate rose from 1.35 percent to 1.95 percent on January 1, 2024 . The county's own rate could not be verified - ask your employer
☐ Ask your own city before you sign a lease	<i>"Has this city adopted the tenant protection act?"</i> The rule is not automatic statewide and was not settled for any of the five communities . Sources say 30 days, 60 days and "no fixed period" for returning a deposit - we print no figure . Protect yourself procedurally: photograph the unit at move-in and move-out, and put objections in writing item by item

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ If you start a business, get a city license	\$25 a year , renewed at the start of each year; on top of that 1.95 percent on net profit earned in the city and 1.95 percent withheld from your employees' wages. Quarterly filings and an annual reconciliation by February 28 . If you sell alcohol you need both a state and a city license - the city has its own alcohol licensing unit
☐ If you are getting married, go to the county clerk	The license is issued by the Hardin County Clerk , not the city. \$60, both parties together in person , and in the clerk's own words "There is no blood test required, and there is no waiting period." The Attorney General's guidance writes that foreign documents are acceptable and that there is no residency or citizenship requirement
☐ If you buy, one bill comes	The city has contracted collection to the sheriff's office since the 2019 tax year : "You should only receive only one bill which includes both your City and County tax amounts." The real money is in the school line : the city district is 85.7 cents against the county's 65.2 cents . Two official sources conflict on the city's own rate - the city's page says \$0.110 per \$100 , the state rate book says 10.7 cents
☐ Buy the flood policy	The state's sentence: "Flooding is Kentucky's #1 most frequent and costly natural disaster. Anywhere it rains, it can flood." The same document says "most homeowner policies do not cover flood damages" and refers to a 30-day waiting period . There is no buying it once the water rises
☐ Get a library card	The county library's policy text names a passport explicitly among the accepted photo identification - driver's license, military ID, passport and state ID. For someone with no photo identification, a birth certificate plus a Social Security card works. The rule: "You are eligible for a free library card if you live, own property, work, or attend school in Hardin County."

KEEP TRACKING AFTER DAY THIRTY

- **Ten days if your status changes**: the statute requires applying to update the license **within ten days** of any change in immigration status.
- **Changing insurers**: online registration renewal does not open until **45 days** with the new company.
- **A debt on another vehicle**: overdue vehicle tax **also locks the renewal of your other vehicles**.
- **Even moving within the city can change five things**: your local occupational tax, **your school district**, your property tax rates, **your water and electric providers** and the address's alcohol regime. **Look the new address up on the map again.**
- **When you move, give at least 24 hours notice to close the gas account** - without it the old address keeps billing. And **give the Declaration of Domicile to each new provider again.**
- **Update your address in the alert system**. It targets geographically; if you are registered at the wrong address a tornado warning will not reach you.

What is deliberately missing from this list

We write out what we do not publish, because you will notice its absence. This guide contains **no street addresses for the immigration agency, immigration enforcement, customs and border protection or the Social Security Administration** - book through **the agency's own system**, do not pay third-party sites, official systems are free. **No figure for the deposit return period** (sources conflict). **No amount for the**

electric membership fee (it is not stated on the agency's page). **No nonresident school fee** (it could not be verified). **No sentence saying periodic inspection does not exist** and **no winter tire rule - we do not say they do not exist, the research did not find them.** And **no population, distance or drive time figures at all.**



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN ELIZABETHTOWN

Have a question about your immigration status?

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