

CHECKLIST · FORT LEE

Moving to Fort Lee, NJ Checklist: The First 90 Days

What newcomers should do, in order, with deadlines and where to do it. Print it and check items off.

SHORT ANSWER

If you are subject to the address-reporting requirement, report your new address to USCIS within 10 days. In the first week, open water service with Veolia, start electric and gas with PSE&G, enroll your children in Fort Lee Public Schools online, and register your car with the Parking Authority. If you rent, learn Fort Lee's rent leveling rules. New Jersey gives you a single 60-day window to transfer your out-of-state license and register your vehicle, unlike a state that splits those into separate 30- and 90-day deadlines.

First 10 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Report your address to USCIS (AR-11)	As a general rule, required for most noncitizens, including green card holders; A and G visa holders and Visa Waiver visitors are exempt. uscis.gov/addresschange
☐ In immigration court? File EOIR-33	Within 5 days: respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov
☐ ICE check-in obligations?	Update ICE too at portal.ice.gov
☐ Change your address with USPS	Separate from USCIS; one does not update the other.

First week

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Water service	Water in Fort Lee comes from Veolia Water New Jersey, a regulated private utility, not a borough department. Under Veolia's tariff, an SSN cannot be required as a condition of service; a deposit may be required if you have no established credit. Customer service: 800-422-5987 (the start-service page also lists 877-565-1456, so confirm the number on Veolia's site). Rate effective August 1, 2026: \$8.0595 per 1,000 gallons plus a \$22.58 monthly facilities charge for a 5/8-inch meter.
☐ Electricity and gas	The delivery company in Fort Lee is PSE&G. Compare suppliers at nj.gov/njpowerswitch . Without an SSN, PSE&G tells applicants to call its assisted sign-up line, 1-800-436-7734 (a deposit may be required).

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Trash and recycling	The contractor is Interstate Waste Services (IWS), 866-342-5497. Collection days depend on your street: Mon and Thu, Tue and Fri, or Wed and Sat. Bulk items go out on your second weekly pickup day, 2 items maximum; call IWS for appliances. DPW: 530 Jane Street, 201-592-3632.
☐ Register your car with the Parking Authority	231 Main Street, 2nd floor, 201-592-3500 ext. 1518. \$5 per vehicle, valid 2 years. Unregistered cars may park in permit zones for 2 hours at most, weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
☐ School enrollment	Fort Lee Public Schools online registration: genesis.c1.genesisedu.net/ftlee/openReg ; office at 231 Main Street, 3rd floor, 201-585-4612 ext. 7506.
☐ Library card	Fort Lee Public Library, 320 Main Street, 201-592-3614. Residents can get a card with one proof of residency: a New Jersey driver's license, bank statement, credit card bill, lease or tax bill. The library has books in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Spanish; no Turkish collection is listed.
☐ Reach the borough	Fort Lee has no 311 line. Use the "Report a General Concern" web form or the Borough Hall switchboard, 201-592-3500 (309 Main Street). You can sign up for Nixle borough alerts.

Within 60 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ New Jersey insurance	Standard Policy minimums: \$35,000 / \$70,000 bodily injury, \$25,000 property damage.
☐ Vehicle registration	MVC appointment (telegov.njportal.com/njmvc), title, 6 Points of ID, insurance card, Form BA-49. Title fee \$60.
☐ Vehicle inspection	At Paramus, Secaucus or Wayne if required (Lodi temporarily closed, Newark permanently closed).
☐ New Jersey license (Standard License)	6 Points of ID, residency document, SSN/ITIN/affidavit. By appointment at North Bergen, Lodi or Paterson (there is no MVC office in Fort Lee).
☐ E-ZPass NJ account	ezpassnj.com , \$1 monthly account fee. On the George Washington Bridge into New York: \$14.79 off-peak or \$16.79 peak with E-ZPass, \$23.30 without.

60 days is the window to transfer your out-of-state license and register your vehicle in New Jersey. If your current license or registration expires sooner, that date applies instead.

Within 90 days and beyond

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Turkish citizens: consulate services	Turkish Consulate General in New York, appointments at konsolosluk.gov.tr
☐ If you rent: rent leveling	Fort Lee has rent leveling. In covered buildings a landlord can raise the rent by at most 5% a year, with at least 12 months between increases; the cap is 3.5% for qualified seniors and disabled tenants. A higher increase is void. Buildings with fewer than three units where the owner lives in one unit are exempt. A tenant complaint costs \$20; Rent Leveling Office, Fort Lee Housing Authority, 1403 Teresa Drive, 201-676-3008.
☐ Property tax (owners)	Fort Lee Tax Collector: 309 Main Street, Room 208, 201-592-3500 ext. 1504. Installments are due February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1, with a 10-day grace period.
☐ Property tax relief (owners and renters)	ANCHOR, Stay NJ and Senior Freeze are all filed on one combined PAS-1 form; the 2025-cycle deadline is November 2, 2026.

IF YOU ARE NOT A U.S. CITIZEN

- Never check "U.S. citizen" on any form and never register to vote; only U.S. citizens may vote in New Jersey.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for SNAP, NJ FamilyCare or any public benefit: a new public charge rule took effect on September 18, 2026.
- Check your I-94 at i94.cbp.dhs.gov.
- With a green card application pending, do not travel abroad without advance parole.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN FORT LEE, NJ

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Fort Lee 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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