

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · JOHNS CREEK

How to Get a Driver's License in Johns Creek: Maxwell Road, the Turkish-Language Exam, SSN and DDS-351, 2026 Guide

There is no license office in the city. Four errands in one building next door, the documents, the exams, the fees, and why the license comes first in a city with no bus.

SHORT ANSWER

Licenses come from the state Department of Driver Services (DDS), and **there is no license office inside Johns Creek**. The city's own new residents page sends you to the state's online service; the nearest counter is at 11575 Maxwell Road in Alpharetta. The same building holds the tag office, the Board of Assessors and the county water billing desk. The knowledge exam is walk-in and offered in Turkish. An SSN or DDS-351 is required, and translations are not accepted.

No office in the city, but four errands in one building next door

The city lists only the state's online service for a license and names no local office, because there is none. Where you actually finish the job is the **Fulton County Customer Service Center at Maxwell Road**, 11575 Maxwell Road in Alpharetta: the DDS license center, the county tag office, the Board of Assessors and the county water and sewer billing division all sit side by side. One drive west from Johns Creek can cover the license, the tag, the homestead application and the water account. The numbers in that building: DDS (678) 413-8400, Tax Commissioner 404-613-6100, Board of Assessors 404-224-0102, water and sewer billing 404-612-6830. One oddity: the county prints the ZIP as 30022 and DDS prints 30009, so navigate by the street address.

What to know before you go

- **The 30-day clock.** You count as a resident once you have been in the state 30 days or more, or you take a job and enroll your children in school within 10 days. From then you have 30 days to hold a Georgia license. Georgia law does not allow a license to be issued to someone without lawful status.
- **Here the license sits at the top of the list.** The reason is simple: **no bus route enters the city at all**, and the on-demand van zone does not cover it either. Alpharetta at least has two routes; Johns Creek has none. Every week without a license leaves you depending on someone else for work, school and groceries.
- **Every visit starts with the online form.** Whatever you are coming in for, DDS wants the Online License/ID/Permit form completed before you walk in. It is free, on DRIVES e-Services.

- **An SSN or form DDS-351.** You give either a Social Security number or the form showing that you cannot get one.
- **Documents must be in English, and translations are not accepted.** DDS wants to see the originals of your immigration documents at every visit.

Step by step

- 1 **File the online form.** dds.drives.ga.gov (DRIVES e-Services), free.
- 2 **Bring documents in English:** one identity document, an SSN (or DDS-351), proof of address from two separate sources, and an immigration document showing your lawful status.
- 3 **Take the knowledge exam as a walk-in.** You join the line at Maxwell Road and must start at least 30 minutes before the center closes. It has two parts, road rules and road signs, and you need 15 of 20 right in each.
- 4 **Call before you plan a road test.** Two official sources disagree about whether this center gives road tests. Either way the appointment is booked on DRIVES e-Services, and you bring a four-wheeled vehicle that is tagged, registered and insured. The pass mark is 75 out of 100.
- 5 **Pay the fee and take the temporary document.** The permanent card arrives by mail within 30 days. TSA does not accept the paper, so carry your passport on domestic flights until the card comes.

The closest centers for a Johns Creek resident

CENTER	ADDRESS	ROAD TEST
Alpharetta (Fulton)	11575 Maxwell Road, Alpharetta GA	Disputed, call first
Marietta (Cobb)	1605 County Services Pkwy, Marietta GA 30008	Yes
Decatur (DeKalb)	2801 Candler Rd, Ste 82, Decatur GA 30034	Yes
Atlanta (downtown)	400 Whitehall Street SW, Atlanta GA 30303	No

THE ROAD TEST CONFLICT, AND THE STATE BRIDGE ROAD KIOSK

- **The conflict:** the text of the DDS Alpharetta page lists a non-commercial road test among the center's services and says an appointment is needed only for road tests. Our statewide research, on the other hand, put this center among those that give none. Both sources are official and we could not settle the difference. The practical route is one phone call: ask on **(678) 413-8400** and book accordingly. If it does not, the nearest alternatives are Marietta (1605 County Services Pkwy) and Decatur (2801 Candler Rd).
- **The nearest self-service point:** DDS runs a renewal kiosk at the Kroger at 10945 State Bridge Road, open 24/7. That stretch of State Bridge Road sits on the Alpharetta and Johns Creek edge, so for many Johns Creek addresses it is the closest counter of any kind. A 3.95 percent credit or 2.95 percent debit surcharge applies, and the kiosk does **renewals only**: no first license, no status update, no exams.
- Centers are open Tuesday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 a.m. to noon, closed Sunday and Monday. The hours come from the text of the DDS page, which we could not read directly because the site blocks automated access, so call before you drive over.

Is the knowledge exam really available in Turkish?

Yes. Per the DDS language list, the road-rules and road-signs parts of the non-commercial knowledge exam are offered in **26 languages**, and **Turkish is one of them**. The road test is in English. There is one more conflict: an older driver manual still on the DDS site says the road-signs section is English only, while the newer language list says both parts are translated. Call **(678) 413-8400** before you go to Maxwell Road and confirm you can take the signs section in Turkish. You may bring one person with you into the exam, including an interpreter.

Fees

TRANSACTION	FEE
License (Class C, 8 years; printed LIMITED-TERM for non-citizens, 5 years maximum)	\$32
Instructional permit	\$10
State ID card (8 years)	\$32
Lost card or renewal	\$10
Online transaction discount	\$5 less

The **LIMITED-TERM** card, your Turkish license, and living without a car

- A card issued to a non-citizen is printed **LIMITED-TERM** and expires with your approved stay, after five years at the latest. If your immigration document is in an extension process you can get a one-time 120-day extension. Every Georgia card issued since 2012 is REAL ID compliant at no extra fee.

- **A Turkish license is not exchanged.** The only reciprocal jurisdictions on the DDS list are South Korea (with a consulate letter) and Taiwan. You take the vision test, the knowledge exam and the road test, and your Turkish license is shown during the transaction and handed back. An international driving permit is not a license on its own.
- You drive to the road test in your own vehicle. If yours is not registered in Georgia yet you may use someone else's insured and registered car, as long as you carry the insurance and registration papers.
- Retakes: fail the road test once and you can try again the next day, twice and you wait 7 days; if you failed because of a crash or a violation you wait 30 days.
- For adults getting a first license, DDS may ask those who take the direct Class C route for a declaration of 40 hours of supervised driving, 6 of them at night. Whether someone with a Turkish license is exempt is not stated on the DDS pages we read; call (678) 413-8400 and ask.
- **Can you manage without a car?** The honest answer is no. No bus enters the city, the on-demand van zone does not cover it, and the city runs no service of its own. If two adults work, build the budget around one car per working adult, because the second adult would otherwise have to travel to another city just to catch a bus.

NOTE FOR IMMIGRANTS

- Keep your passport, visa, I-94 and any I-797C or EAD in one folder and take it to **every visit**, because DDS wants to see the originals again each time.
- The LIMITED-TERM date on your card follows your immigration document, so go back to DDS the day you extend your status.
- If anyone offers you voter registration at the counter and you are not a U.S. citizen, decline and tick the Opt-Out box. As the form words it, signing that section is a sworn statement that you are a U.S. citizen.
- You are making one trip to Maxwell Road: finish the tag office errand the same day, plus the homestead application if you own, or the water account if you rent.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN JOHNS CREEK

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Johns Creek 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.

Attorney advertising. This guide is general information only. It is not legal advice and is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. Information compiled from official sources as of October 1, 2026; fees and procedures change, so check the official site before you act. Reading this guide does not create an attorney-client relationship. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Latest version: clinchlaw.com/city-guides/johns-creek-immigration-attorney