

CHECKLIST · LOUISVILLE

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

One question opens the whole list: which municipality is your address in? Write the answer down, because it returns in your tax bill, your police force, your garbage and your lease.

SHORT ANSWER

Open this list with a question: which of the municipalities inside Jefferson County is your address in? There are **more than 80 separate cities** inside the county, and your mailing address will not tell you: an envelope that says Louisville can still arrive at a home inside another municipality. **Your tax bill, your police force, your garbage service and your tenant rights all follow from that answer.** The second sentence is about schools: **enrollment here is an application, not a registration**, and a newly arrived family **has to apply**. The list below covers the first thirty days.

Day one

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Look your address up on the official map tool	Search your address on LOJIC Online, click the "g" button under the Parcel Report , and read the "City:" line under " General Geographic Information " on the right. Do this before you sign a lease or make an offer
☐ Register for the alert system	It targets geographically ; enter your address correctly or a tornado warning will not reach you
☐ Put your documents in one folder	Passports, immigration documents, birth certificates, previous school records, immunization cards. Offices ask for originals and do not accept photocopies

The first week

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Open the water account	The utility's own rule accepts " a valid and current social security number, federal tax identification number, or an employer identification number " - so an ITIN or EIN works. The bill that follows earns you proof of address
☐ Call before filing the electric and gas application	The online form asks for a full Social Security number and a credit check consent , and shows no path without a number . We do not say service cannot be opened without one; no alternative was found on the form . Telephone: 502-589-1444

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Hand the Declaration of Domicile to every provider	Skip it and unnecessary sales tax lands on your bill, with no retroactive correction
☐ File the mail forwarding order	Forwarding is not a notification. Online, your card's billing address must match the old or the new address; if it does not, go to a post office with photo identification
☐ Book the driver license appointment	Louisville has five regional offices and you may book at any regional office in the state . Take the earliest slot you find
☐ Register the car	In order: Kentucky insurance , then the sheriff inspection (no appointment, \$15, cards not accepted), then the Jefferson County Clerk . The agency's own page gives both 10 and 15 days for the deadline; going in the first week beats both
☐ Get the MyTARC card or app	Paying cash earns no transfer . A single ride is \$2.25 , reduced fare \$1.00 , a 30 day pass \$75

Right away: children and health

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Apply for school	There is no walk-in neighborhood enrollment. The district's term is managed choice ; the 2027-28 window is November 2 to December 18, 2026 and it is not first come, first served . Arriving mid-year: Office of School Choice, (502) 485-6250
☐ Apply for health coverage	The five year waiting period does not apply to children or pregnant people , and application help is free
☐ Plan the four school health documents	The immunization record within two weeks of enrollment; vision and dental exams by January 1

The first month: money and contracts

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Ask one question before you sign a lease	Ask your municipality or the county clerk: <i>has this government adopted the tenant protection act?</i> The rule is not automatic statewide and there are more than 80 municipalities in the county
☐ Photograph the unit at move in and move out	For the deposit return window the sources say 30 days, 60 days and "no fixed period." We print the contradiction and publish no figure. Protect yourself with procedure instead
☐ Read your pay stub	The local wage tax is 2.20 percent for residents and 1.45 percent for non-residents . The revenue agency's own line: "Louisville Metro includes the area within the boundaries of Jefferson County" - living in a suburban city does not exempt you
☐ Ask which municipality the workplace is in	One municipality inside the county asks the question on its own page and answers "Yes" : someone working there owes a second withholding as well. The rates of the remaining municipalities were not measured ; do not generalize

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Open the bridge account	If you will cross to Indiana: a passenger crossing is \$2.79 with a prepaid account and transponder and \$5.57 with no account - exactly double . Three bridges are tolled, two are free , and buses pay no toll
☐ Go to the county clerk if you are marrying	No waiting period and no blood test , both parties apply together in person, the license is valid 30 days and only in Kentucky. The Attorney General's guide says foreign documents should be accepted. Confirm the fee with the county clerk
☐ Update your billing address if you bought a home	With the valuation office; and put the 2 percent discount window, November 1 to December 1 , in your calendar. The debt runs even if the bill never reaches you
☐ Buy the flood policy	The state's own line: "Flooding is Kentucky's #1 most frequent and costly natural disaster." Homeowner policies do not cover flood damage and there is a 30 day waiting period - buying once the water rises is not an option
☐ Get a library card	Free internet, language software in more than 110 languages and citizenship test preparation

KEEP TRACKING AFTER DAY THIRTY

- **10 days on a status change:** the statute requires an application to update the license **within 10 days** of any change in immigration status.
- **Switching insurers:** online registration renewal does not open until **45 days** with the new carrier; do not schedule a switch near your renewal month.
- **A second vehicle's debt:** an overdue vehicle tax **locks the renewal of your other vehicles too**.
- **Even a move within the city can change three things:** which municipality you are in, your garbage service and **your school application**. Look the new address up on the map again.

What is deliberately absent from this list

We state what we do not publish, because you will notice it is missing. This guide carries **no street addresses for the immigration agency, the immigration enforcement unit, customs and border protection, or the social security administration** - book through **the agency's own system**, pay no intermediary site, official systems are free. **No figure for the deposit return window** (the sources conflict). **No base annual registration and plate fee** (not found on the agency's pages). **No winter tire rule** - we do not say there is none; **the research did not find one**. And **no distance or driving time figures at all**.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN LOUISVILLE

Have a question about your immigration status?

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