

CHECKLIST · MIAMI

Moving to Miami, FL 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 electric service with FPL (a driver's license or passport number is accepted instead of an SSN) and water with Miami-Dade WASD, save 311, and enroll your children with Miami-Dade County Public Schools. You have 30 days for a Florida driver's license, and 10 days for vehicle registration once you start a job or enroll a child in school. If you own your home, the homestead exemption deadline is March 1, and hurricane season means checking your storm surge zone.

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.
☐ Started a job or enrolled a child in school?	Your 10-day window for vehicle registration has started, see below.

First week

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Electricity (FPL)	Florida Power & Light serves Miami; start service at fpl.com . An SSN is not required: a driver's license or passport number can be used instead. FPL runs a credit check; if a deposit is required it is roughly two months of expected electric use, and a guarantor option exists. FPL: 1-888-988-8249.

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Water and sewer (Miami-Dade WASH)	Water is a separate bill. New service is opened through the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (WASH) online application portal; the new-service deposit is \$50, plus a non-refundable \$45 service charge on the first bill. You need a government photo ID (driver's license or passport) and a deed or lease; WASH's list does not include an SSN. Phone 305-665-7477.
☐ Trash and recycling	Depends on your address: inside City of Miami limits it is City of Miami Solid Waste, outside the city it is often Miami-Dade County Solid Waste. Find your collection day through 311 or (305) 468-5900.
☐ 311	For city and county services, dial 311 (English, Spanish, Haitian Creole). Weekdays 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
☐ School enrollment	M-DCPS Parent Portal, dadeschools.net ; district office (305) 995-1000.
☐ Library card	The Miami-Dade Public Library System card is free. A photo ID (driver's license, passport, green card or work authorization card) and proof of address no older than 2 months are enough.

Within 30 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Florida driver's license	Within 30 days of establishing residency. Exams are given in English only and Türkiye has no testing waiver. flhsmv.gov/new-resident

Within 10 days (from starting a job or enrolling in school)

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Vehicle registration, title and Florida insurance	Minimum \$10,000 PIP plus \$10,000 PDL. At a Miami-Dade Tax Collector branch; a VIN verification may be required. (305) 375-5448.
☐ SunPass account (if you will use toll roads)	SunPass Mini \$4.99 or PRO \$14.95, at SunPass.com . There is no cash on Miami toll roads.

Within 90 days and beyond

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Homestead exemption, if you own your home	Deadline every year is March 1; Miami-Dade Property Appraiser, 111 NW 1st St, Suite 710, Miami, or online, (305) 375-4712.
☐ Hurricane preparedness	Use Miami-Dade's Know Your Zone map (Storm Surge Planning Zones page) to find your address's storm surge zone: there are five zones, A to E, and Zone A is the highest risk.

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Turkish citizens: consulate services	The Turkish Consulate General is in Miami, 80 SW 8th St., Suite 2700; appointments at konsolosluk.gov.tr

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 Florida.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for SNAP, Florida KidCare 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 MIAMI

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Miami and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

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