

CHECKLIST · NEW JERSEY STATE

Moving to New Jersey 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're subject to the address-reporting requirement, report your new address to USCIS within 10 days. In the first week, put electricity and gas in your name and enroll your children in school; New Jersey schools cannot ask for an SSN. Coming from another U.S. state? Transfer your license and vehicle registration to New Jersey within 60 days, shorter than Texas's 90-day window. A Standard License doesn't need immigration documents, but if you want REAL ID, prepare proof of lawful presence.

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 online account: uscis.gov/addresschange
☐ In immigration court? File EOIR-33	Within 5 days: respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov
☐ ICE check-in obligations?	Update ICE too: portal.ice.gov
☐ Change your address with USPS	Separate from USCIS; one does not update the other.

First week

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Electricity and gas	PSE&G is the local utility across most of northern and central New Jersey. No SSN? Call 1-800-436-7734. You can also choose a competing supplier; compare options at the state's own tool, NJ Power Switch: nj.gov/njpowerswitch
☐ School enrollment	Find your zoned district; New Jersey schools cannot ask for a Social Security number.
☐ SSN application (if eligible)	Start online, then visit an SSA office within 45 days: ssa.gov

Within 30 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ New Jersey insurance	Standard Policy minimums \$35,000/\$70,000 bodily injury, \$25,000 property damage
☐ Vehicle inspection	Most vehicles need an emissions inspection every 2 years; new cars are exempt for 5 years
☐ E-ZPass NJ account	ezpassnj.com · \$1 monthly account fee
☐ Start your New Jersey license and registration process	Must be completed within 60 days: 6 Points of ID, an MVC appointment, and Form BA-49 for registration

Within 60-90 days and after

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Finish your New Jersey license and vehicle registration	Must be done before the 60-day deadline, or before your old state license/registration expires, whichever comes first
☐ Renting? Know your security deposit rights	New Jersey caps a security deposit at 1.5 times monthly rent, requires it to sit in an interest-bearing New Jersey bank account, and requires it back within 30 days after the lease ends
☐ Homeowner or renter? Property tax relief	ANCHOR, Stay NJ and Senior Freeze are all filed on one combined form, PAS-1; the deadline for the 2025 application is November 2, 2026
☐ Turkish citizens: consulate services	Turkish Consulate General in New York, 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 citizens can vote in New Jersey too.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for NJ FamilyCare, SNAP or any public benefit: a new public charge rule took effect on September 18, 2026.
- Check your I-94 record at i94.cbp.dhs.gov. Your license term and work authorization may depend on it.
- With a green card application pending, do not travel abroad without advance parole.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN NEW JERSEY

Have a question about your immigration status?

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