

CHECKLIST · NEW YORK STATE

Moving to New York State 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 York schools can't ask for an SSN. If you hold a license from another U.S. state, exchange it within 30 days of becoming a New York resident. If you have a car, buy New York insurance, register the car and open an E-ZPass account. Arrived with a Turkish license? Start the New York license process (written test, 5-hour course, road test) without delay.

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	Depends on where you live: Con Edison (electricity in all five NYC boroughs; gas in Manhattan and the Bronx) or National Grid (gas in Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and much of Long Island; gas and electric across most of upstate New York). You can also choose a competing supplier (an ESCO), but compare the utility's own default rate first.
☐ School enrollment	Find your zoned school, or visit a Family Welcome Center in New York City. Schools cannot ask for an SSN.

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ SSN application (if eligible)	Start online, then visit an SSA office within 45 days: ssa.gov . New York City has dedicated Social Security Card Centers in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens.
☐ Library card	A New York Public Library card (Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island) is free for anyone who lives, works or studies in New York State. Brooklyn, Queens and the rest of the state have their own library systems.

Within 30 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Exchange an out-of-state license	Within 30 days of becoming a New York resident; vision test only, no written or road test
☐ New York insurance	25/50/10 liability, plus \$50,000 per person in no-fault (PIP) coverage and uninsured-motorist coverage
☐ Vehicle registration	At the DMV, after insurance; title \$50, plates \$25, weight-based registration about \$26-\$140 for 2 years
☐ Vehicle inspection	Combined annual safety-and-emissions inspection
☐ E-ZPass account	e-zpassny.com · tag \$25 (\$30 in New York City and Long Island)
☐ Start the New York license process	Written test (offered in 20 languages, including Turkish), the 5-hour course and the road test, in order

Within 90 days and after

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Finish your New York license	Pass the road test and get your card; your Turkish license is surrendered when you pass
☐ Bought a home? The STAR credit	Apply for the School Tax Relief (STAR) property-tax credit at tax.ny.gov ; income limits apply
☐ 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 may vote anywhere in New York.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for Medicaid, the Essential Plan, 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 YORK

Have a question about your immigration status?

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