

CHECKLIST · PENNSYLVANIA STATE

# Moving to Pennsylvania Checklist: The First 60 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 in your name (utilities such as PECO accept a visa, green card, or passport as ID if you have no SSN) and enroll your children in school; Pennsylvania schools cannot ask for an SSN. If you own a car, you must apply for Pennsylvania title and registration within 20 days (a Pennsylvania license or ID is required); a newly registered vehicle then needs a safety inspection within 10 days. Transferring a valid out-of-state license? You have 60 days to switch to a Pennsylvania license.

## First 10 days

| TASK                                                                 | WHERE / HOW                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Report your address to USCIS (AR-11)</b> | 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: <a href="https://uscis.gov/addresschange">uscis.gov/addresschange</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>In immigration court? File EOIR-33</b>   | Within 5 days: <a href="https://respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov">respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov</a>                                                                                                                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>ICE check-in obligations?</b>            | Update ICE too: <a href="https://portal.ice.gov">portal.ice.gov</a>                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Change your address with USPS</b>        | Separate from USCIS; one does not update the other.                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## First week

| TASK                                              | WHERE / HOW                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Electricity</b>       | Your utility depends on where you live (PECO in the Philadelphia region). Compare plans at <a href="https://papowerswitch.com">papowerswitch.com</a> . No SSN? Companies like PECO accept a visa, a green card, or a passport as alternate ID |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>School enrollment</b> | Find your zoned district; Pennsylvania schools cannot ask for a Social Security number, only proof of date of birth, immunization records, and residency.                                                                                     |

| TASK                                                          | WHERE / HOW                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SSN application (if eligible)</b> | Start online, then visit an SSA office within 45 days: <a href="https://ssa.gov">ssa.gov</a> |

## Within 20 days

| TASK                                                                               | WHERE / HOW                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pennsylvania license or ID card</b>                    | Required to register a car; start the license application in your first weeks                                                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pennsylvania insurance</b>                             | Minimums \$15,000/\$30,000 bodily injury, \$5,000 property damage, \$5,000 medical benefits; know whether you are choosing Limited Tort or Full Tort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Vehicle title and registration</b>                     | Through an authorized agent (notary, dealer, or messenger service) with Form MV-1; apply within 20 days                                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Safety inspection after registering</b>                | Required within 10 days of a new registration                                                                                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Emissions test if you're in one of the 25 counties</b> | Includes the five-county Philadelphia region and Allegheny County                                                                                    |

## Within 60 days and after

| TASK                                                                                                     | WHERE / HOW                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Switch to a Pennsylvania driver's license</b>                                | Must be done within 60 days if transferring a valid out-of-state license; no knowledge test if that license is valid or expired 6 months or less |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>E-ZPass PA account</b>                                                       | <a href="https://paturndpike.com">paturndpike.com</a> · up to 50% less than Toll By Plate                                                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Renting? Know your security deposit rights</b>                               | Pennsylvania caps a deposit at 2 months' rent in year 1 and 1 month's rent from year 2 onward, returned within 30 days after the lease ends      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>65+, a widow/widower 50+, or have a disability? Property tax/rent rebate</b> | The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program has a \$48,110 income cap; the 2026 filing deadline is December 31, 2026, hotline 1-888-222-9190            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Turkish citizens: consulate services</b>                                     | Turkish Consulate General in New York, appointments at <a href="https://konsolosluk.gov.tr">konsolosluk.gov.tr</a>                               |

#### 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 Pennsylvania too.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for Medicaid, Pennie subsidies, SNAP, or any public benefit: a new public charge rule took effect on September 18, 2026, and Pennsylvania SNAP rules narrowed for some statuses on November 1, 2025.
- Check your I-94 record at [i94.cbp.dhs.gov](https://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 PENNSYLVANIA

##### Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients across Pennsylvania, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation: [clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation](https://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 September 28, 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/pennsylvania-immigration-attorney](https://clinchlaw.com/city-guides/pennsylvania-immigration-attorney)