

CHECKLIST · PITTSBURGH

Moving to Pittsburgh 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 Duquesne Light, gas with Peoples Natural Gas, and water with the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA), and enroll your children in school. In Pennsylvania you have 20 days to register your vehicle and 60 days to transfer an out-of-state license, two separate deadlines.

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 . Pittsburgh no longer has its own immigration court; your case is now tied to the Philadelphia Immigration Court.
☐ 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.

First week

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Electricity	Duquesne Light (duquesnelight.com). If you have no SSN, call the company before you apply and ask about alternate-ID options.
☐ Natural gas	Peoples Natural Gas. New service: 866-556-6001; general customer service: 1-800-764-0111. The online request requires an SSN and your previous address; if you do not have an SSN, call first to ask about alternatives.
☐ Water	Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA), 412-255-2423 / info@pgh2o.com . If you rent, you can put the bill in your own name with an "Application for Service - Tenants" form; proof of tenancy, such as your lease, is required; check the form for the full list.

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Trash and recycling days	Find your collection day by address at pgh.st ; report a missed pickup to Pittsburgh 311 (412-255-2626).
☐ School enrollment	The Registration Gateway Center (registration.discoverpps.org) or your neighborhood school.
☐ Library card	Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; any Allegheny County resident 18 or older can register fully online. carnegielibrary.org

Within 20 days: vehicle registration

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Pennsylvania insurance	Minimum \$15,000 / \$30,000 bodily injury, \$5,000 property damage ("15/30/5"), with a Limited or Full Tort election.
☐ Title and registration	Form MV-1, through an authorized agent (notary, dealer, or messenger service). Title \$72, annual registration \$48.
☐ Safety inspection	Within 10 days of registration.
☐ Emissions test	Allegheny County is one of the 25 counties that require it.

Within 60 days: driver's license

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Pennsylvania driver's license	A valid out-of-state license transfers without a test. Find a center: pa.gov/agencies/dmv/find-a-location
☐ Arrived with a foreign license	Including a Turkish one: you must pass both the knowledge and road tests.
☐ E-ZPass PA account	peturnpike.com , no stated monthly fee.

Within 90 days and beyond

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Turkish citizens: consulate services	Turkish Consulate General in New York, appointments at konsolosluk.gov.tr ; about 370 miles (a 6-hour drive) from Pittsburgh, so use phone or mail options where possible.
☐ Bought a home? Allegheny County Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion (Act 50)	Excludes \$18,000 from your assessed value for the county tax (school districts and municipalities may also take part); deadline March 1. This is a different, smaller program than Philadelphia's \$100,000 Homestead Exemption, do not compare the two dollar figures directly. Info: 412-350-4636.

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Pittsburgh's local income tax	On top of Pennsylvania's flat 3.07% state tax, Pittsburgh residents pay a 3% Earned Income Tax (1% city plus 2% school district), collected by Jordan Tax Service, and everyone working in the city pays a flat \$52/year Local Services Tax, wherever they live (if your yearly earned income is under \$12,000, file an exemption certificate with your employer).

IF YOU ARE NOT A U.S. CITIZEN

- Never check "U.S. citizen" on any form and never register to vote.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for SNAP 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 PITTSBURGH

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Pittsburgh and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English.

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