

CHECKLIST · SAN ANTONIO

Moving to San Antonio 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 electricity and gas with CPS Energy and water with SAWS, and book your DPS appointment (the wait in San Antonio is about a month). Register your car in Bexar County within 30 days and get your Texas license within 90 days. You do not need an SSN or green card to enroll your children in school.

First 10 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Report your address to USCIS (AR-11)	As a general rule, most noncitizens (green card holders included) must report within 10 days of moving; A and G visa holders and Visa Waiver visitors are exempt. Enter every receipt number: uscis.gov/addresschange
☐ In immigration court? File EOIR-33	Within 5 days: respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov
☐ Released by DHS? Update ICE	With an NTA, parole/ATD or a notice to report, within 5 business days: DRIL 1-888-351-4024 · check-ins: checkin.ice.gov
☐ Change your address with USPS	Separate from USCIS; one does not update the other.

First week

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Electricity and natural gas	Both come from the city-owned utility CPS Energy, in one application. New customers call First Connections: (210) 353-2222. There is no retail choice in San Antonio (no Power to Choose). cpsenergy.com
☐ ID for CPS Energy	A state driver's license or ID, an SSN, a federal tax ID, or "any other form of verifiable identification acceptable to CPS Energy." If you have no SSN, ask directly whether your passport is accepted. A deposit may apply; confirm the amount by phone

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Water (SAWS)	myaccount.saws.org or 210-704-7297 (Mon to Fri 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). If a technician has to turn the water on, the meter trip fee is \$12 (\$6 for Affordability Program members). SAWS generally asks for at least 5 business days' notice; confirm by phone
☐ Trash and recycling	The city trash fee depends on cart size: small (48 gal) \$19.76, medium (64 gal) \$25.26, large (96 gal) \$35.75 per month (\$5 environmental fee included). Blue recycling and green organics carts are free. Find your days with "My Collection Day" or the 311SA app
☐ DPS license appointment	txdpsscheduler.com · "Original" service. First-time appointments in San Antonio run about 30 to 35 days out, so book early
☐ School enrollment	Find the district for your address first: TEA district locator
☐ SSN application (if eligible)	Start online, visit SSA within 45 days: ssa.gov · 1-800-772-1213

Within 30 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Texas car insurance	At least 30/60/25
☐ Emissions test	Not needed: Bexar County is not on the list of counties that require one
☐ Vehicle registration	Bexar County Tax Office, main office 233 N Pecos La Trinidad · (210) 335-2251 · txdmv.gov . Passport + I-94 (or green card), \$90 new resident tax
☐ Toll tag	Not needed in the city. Only for trips to Austin, Houston or Dallas: EZ TAG from hctra.org
☐ Library card	Free for San Antonio residents with photo ID and proof of address. Terms differ for Bexar County residents outside city limits; ask a branch about current terms and any fee
☐ Keep a copy of your lease	Proof of address for DPS, school and the tax office

Within 90 days

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Texas driver's license	ITAD certificate, knowledge and road tests, \$33. Book your appointment early
☐ Bought a home? Homestead exemption	Update your license address, then apply to the Bexar Appraisal District (BCAD) between January 1 and April 30; details at bcad.org
☐ Turkish citizens: consulate registration	Address declaration and services at the Houston Consulate General (about a 3-hour drive from San Antonio), konsolosluk.gov.tr
☐ City services	For trash, streetlight or pothole requests: 3-1-1 or 210-207-6000 (daily 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., until 11 p.m. for urgent issues)

IF YOU ARE NOT A U.S. CITIZEN

- Never check "U.S. citizen" on any form and never register to vote. If you get a jury summons, state that you are not a U.S. citizen.
- Talk to an immigration attorney before applying for SNAP, Medicaid, University Health CareLink or any public benefit: a new public charge rule took effect on September 18, 2026.
- Check your I-94 at i94.cbp.dhs.gov. Your license term, car registration and work authorization depend on it.
- With a green card application pending, do not travel abroad without advance parole.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN SAN ANTONIO

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

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