

CHECKLIST · SCRANTON

Moving to Scranton 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 and gas service with the company that serves your address, water and sewer with Pennsylvania American Water, 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 . Scranton has no immigration court; EOIR lists only Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, and your case is heard there or by video.
☐ 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 and gas	Confirm which company serves your address, using the company's address lookup or your landlord, before you start service. Utilities regulated in Pennsylvania (52 Pa. Code 56.32) may ask for ID: one government photo ID, or two alternative IDs with one photo. They may ask for your SSN but may not require it. If a deposit is required, it is one-sixth of the estimated annual bill; an applicant confirmed eligible for the utility's assistance program owes no deposit.
☐ Water and sewer	Pennsylvania American Water, 1-800-565-7292 (weekdays 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; automated system 24 hours). Start service through a MyWater account or by phone; a deposit may be required if you were not a customer before. Have your service address, billing address and phone number ready. The company also runs Scranton's sewer system.

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Trash and recycling	City DPW Bureau of Refuse and Recycling: 570-348-4180 · recycle@scrantonpa.gov . Recycling is picked up curbside; garbage is often collected in the court or alley. Property owners pay a \$300 annual refuse fee on the property tax bill (renters usually pay it through the landlord).
☐ City services (Scranton311)	For non-emergencies such as potholes, missed pickups, streetlights or abandoned vehicles, use the online form or Scranton311@scrantonpa.gov . City Hall: 340 N. Washington Ave, (570) 348-4100. In an emergency, call 911.
☐ School enrollment	Scranton School District Infinite Campus online portal or Central Registration, 425 N. Washington Ave, (570) 348-3400.
☐ Library card	Lackawanna County Library System; apply online or at any branch, ID is required to verify your name and address, and the card arrives by mail in 5-7 business days. lclshome.org/join · (570) 348-3000 ext. 3000

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	According to PennDOT's Drive Clean PA list, Lackawanna County is an emissions-testing county; confirm at the inspection station along with the safety inspection.

Within 60 days: driver's license

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Pennsylvania driver's license	A valid out-of-state license transfers without a test. The center for the Scranton area is in Dunmore (81 Keystone Industrial Park); check hours on the locator: 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	paturnpike.com , no stated monthly fee. The Northeast Extension (I-476) is cashless, and a bill can go to your plate.

Within 90 days and beyond

TASK	WHERE / HOW
☐ Turkish citizens: consulate services	Turkish Consulate General in New York, appointments at konsolosluk.gov.tr; about 120 miles (2.5 to 3 hours) from Scranton, and the Martz bus runs from the Lackawanna Transit Center to Port Authority.
☐ Bought a home? Lackawanna County Homestead/Farmstead application	The application must reach the Assessment Office by March 1: 123 Wyoming Avenue, 2nd floor, (570) 963-6728; the home must be your primary residence. The amount of relief from the Scranton School District could not be confirmed, so ask the Assessment Office.
☐ Property tax assessment	Lackawanna County finished its first countywide reassessment in about 60 years in 2025, and 2026 bills were the first on the new values, so your first bill may surprise you. The appeal period has closed; the next one opens April 1, 2027. Payments go to the Single Tax Office, 315 Franklin Avenue.
☐ Scranton's local income tax	On top of Pennsylvania's flat 3.07% state tax, PA DCED's June 15, 2026 rates put Scranton residents at a 3.4% Earned Income Tax (2.4% municipal plus 1.0% school district); the rate for nonresidents who work in the city is 1%. There is also a \$156 yearly Local Services Tax (\$151 city plus \$5 school). Collected by Berkheimer and the Scranton Single Tax Office, (570) 963-6756.

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 SCRANTON



Have a question about your immigration status?

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

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