

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · WAYNESBORO

Waynesboro Car Registration, Inspection and Getting Around Guide 2026

For cars brought from another state, cars bought in Pennsylvania, and anyone who needs to know how limited public transit is in Waynesboro.

SHORT ANSWER

After you settle in Pennsylvania, you have 20 days to register a vehicle. The order is: PA insurance (minimum \$15,000 / \$30,000 / \$5,000), a VIN verification, then title and registration through an authorized agent (a notary, dealer, or messenger service) using Form MV-1. A newly registered vehicle must pass a safety inspection within 10 days. In Franklin County the vehicle sales tax is the plain 6% state rate, with no county add-on. The title fee is \$72 and annual registration is \$48. Waynesboro has no city bus line, so a car is close to essential.

Step by step

- 1 Get Pennsylvania insurance.** Minimum liability: \$15,000 per person / \$30,000 per accident bodily injury, \$5,000 property damage, commonly called "15/30/5." Your policy also requires a Limited Tort or Full Tort election: Limited Tort is cheaper but gives up the right to sue for pain and suffering unless a "serious injury" threshold is met; Full Tort keeps that right but costs more. A Maryland address or Maryland insurance does not satisfy Pennsylvania registration; you need Pennsylvania insurance first.
- 2** Get a VIN verification (by tracing, or verified by an authorized mechanic or notary).
- 3** Complete Form MV-1 (the title application); a leased vehicle also needs Form MV-1L. This form is not self-service online; it is processed through an authorized agent, most commonly a notary, dealer, or messenger service, which usually issues a temporary registration on the spot.
- 4** Bring your out-of-state title, proof of PA insurance (card, declaration page, or a copy of the policy), and lienholder information if applicable, to the agent.
- 5** Once registered, get a safety inspection within 10 days.

Fees (2026)

ITEM	AMOUNT
Title fee, first registration	\$72
Annual passenger vehicle registration	\$48 (a 2-year option is also available)
Lien recording	\$36

The sales tax on a car bought in Franklin County is Pennsylvania's 6% state rate; there is no county add-on like Allegheny's or Philadelphia's. Some counties charge a \$5 local use fee; ask your agent at registration whether Franklin County does. Vehicles you owned for at least 6 months before moving are generally exempt from PA use tax on the transfer.

Inspection: statewide safety, no emissions test in Franklin County

- An annual safety inspection is required statewide for every registered vehicle: brakes, lighting, steering, suspension, tires, glass, wipers, mirrors, horn, seat belts, exhaust.
- Emissions testing applies in only 25 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. The state's Drive Clean PA program lists Franklin County among the 42 counties where no emissions test is required; the safety inspection includes a quick visual anti-tampering check of the emissions parts.

THE 20-DAY RULE FOR NEW RESIDENTS

After you establish Pennsylvania residency (accepting a job, leasing or buying property, or enrolling a dependent in a local school all count), you must title and register your vehicle within 20 days. This is different from the 60-day window for your license, so keep both deadlines in mind separately.

Public transit: limited

- No fixed-route city bus service in Waynesboro appears in the official sources. Franklin County works with rabbittransit on a shared-ride service: 800-632-9063 (weekdays 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.). Waynesboro is listed as a destination for that service, which runs on weekdays and requires calling ahead.
- The \$2 on-demand Stop Hopper shuttle covers only the Chambersburg area and Fayetteville; Waynesboro is not in its service area.
- Confirm fares and eligibility with rabbittransit. Options are limited for newcomers without a car, so plan on having a vehicle for everyday errands.

No local tolls, and the PA Turnpike with E-ZPass

There are no tolls on the local roads around Waynesboro (US-30, PA-16, and the I-81 and I-70 corridors nearby). The tolled road you may meet is the statewide PA Turnpike, if you drive toward Harrisburg, Philadelphia or Pittsburgh. The PA Turnpike is cashless. Open-Road Tolling, the barrier-free gantry system, has been in place east of Reading since January 5, 2025, and rolls out west of Reading in January 2027. E-ZPass PA drivers pay up to 50% less than Toll By Plate, and there is no stated monthly account fee.

TOPIC	DETAILS
Open an account	paturndrive.com , the PA Toll Pay app, a Go Pak retailer, or by phone/mail (1-877-736-6727)
Auto-replenishment (bank account)	\$35 per transponder charged when the balance drops to \$10 or less

TOPIC	DETAILS
Without a tag (Toll By Plate)	A plate-photo invoice is mailed to the vehicle's registered owner; pay by check, money order, or credit card

NOTE FOR IMMIGRANTS

After you move, update the address on your vehicle registration and your E-ZPass account. If you are subject to the address-reporting requirement, you must also report your new address to USCIS within 10 days (AR-11).



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN WAYNESBORO

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

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