



## POST-MOVE CHECKLIST: THINGS TO CONSIDER

Moving can be overwhelming. Now that you are here, use this quick post-move checklist to ensure a successful transition. This short checklist will help you finalize any items that you may have forgotten.

### DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES/AUTOMOTIVE (DO NOT DELAY, THIS MUST BE DONE!)

- Update/change driver's license within 60 days of establishing residency. You MUST have a physical social security card when going to the DMV. Definition: 'establishing residency' is once you have moved into an apartment/house. This includes temporary housing.
- Obtain car insurance in Pennsylvania. You must provide proof of Pennsylvania car insurance when registering your vehicles.
- Register your out-of-state vehicles within 20 days of transferring your driver's license.
- Pass a state safety inspection within 10 days of registering your car in PA. Inspections must be completed at an official PennDOT Inspection Station.
- Recommended: get an E-Z Pass for state tolls. An E-Z Pass can be purchased online, in-person, by mail or on the E-Z pass mobile app. Visit [paturnpike.com/e-zpass](http://paturnpike.com/e-zpass) for purchasing and location information.

### GENERAL ITEMS

- Check to make sure all of your utilities are turned on:
  - Water
  - Cable
  - Internet
  - Electric
  - Sewer
  - Gas
  - Trash
- If you are renting: inspect your apartment to see if there are any marks or broken items that were there before you moved in. Take pictures and report any issues to your apartment management team as soon as possible so you are not responsible for these damages when you move out.
- File all of your moving paperwork:
  - bill of lading and
  - any receipts. (These may be useful for tax deductions.)
- Establish bank accounts as well as car and home/renter's insurance.
- \*LINC Tip: Bundle insurance for home and auto to receive additional discounts. Even if you are renting, be sure you are covered.
- Complete a postal Change of Address form:
  - In person at the nearest post office
  - Online at [moversguide.usps.com/mgo/disclaimer](http://moversguide.usps.com/mgo/disclaimer)
- Inform the following of your new address:
  - Friends/family
  - Banks
  - Insurance companies
  - Credit Cards
- Find health care providers
  - Transfer medical records
  - Find the closest urgent care near you



## HOME/APARTMENT

- Change locks if you buy a new home.
- Check all heating sources to ensure they are all working properly and safely.
- For safety purposes, know how to turn off the water and power to your home including electric, water heater, fuel oil tank (if applicable) and gas.
- Check your smoke alarms and ensure you have a fire extinguisher.
- For Electric – you have options in service providers. Be sure to check: <https://shop.chooseenergy.com/pennsylvania>  
<https://www.pplelectric.com/my-account/shop-for-electricity.aspx>
- Hire a pest control company
- Hire fireplace/furnace specialists to clean fireplaces, furnaces, etc. (If renting, verify that your landlord takes care of this.)

## SCHOOLS

- Register your child(ren) with your local school district or pre-school. (Pre-schools register in the spring so be sure you have proper care for your child(ren).)
- You may need to request transcripts from prior school for new school. Most districts have ongoing enrollment.

## COMMUNITY AND RESOURCES

- Identify grocery stores, markets, fitness centers, malls, etc. near you.
- Start making connections in your new community-- put yourself out there!
- \* **LINC Tip:** Challenge yourself to accept all invitations received the first 6 months following your move.
- Get to know the Lehigh Valley:
  - All things Lehigh Valley: [Discover Lehigh Valley](http://www.discoverlehighvalley.com) [www.discoverlehighvalley.com](http://www.discoverlehighvalley.com)
  - Music: [ArtsQuest](http://artsquest.org) [artsquest.org](http://artsquest.org), [Miller Symphony Hall](http://millersymphonyhall.org) [millersymphonyhall.org](http://millersymphonyhall.org), [Zoellner Arts Center](http://zoellner.cas.lehigh.edu) [zoellner.cas.lehigh.edu](http://zoellner.cas.lehigh.edu)
  - Trails: Check out [Wildlands Conservancy](http://wildlandspa.org/our-preserves/) [wildlandspa.org/our-preserves/](http://wildlandspa.org/our-preserves/)

## PETS

- Find a new veterinarian, including your nearest emergency vet. - Be sure to request your pets medical records from your previous vet if needed.
- Obtain a county dog license annually:  
Northampton County: Purchase in person at the Northampton County Human Services Building- Revenue Office 1st Floor- 2801 Emrick Blvd. Bethlehem, PA 18020 (610) 829-6186  
Lehigh County: Purchase in person at the Lehigh County Humane Society- 640 Dixon St. Allentown PA 18103 (610) 797-1205

## Voter Registration

- Update voter registration:
  - Online Application: <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx>
  - Mail-In Application Form: <https://www.lehighcounty.org/Portals/0/PDF/Voter/OnlineVoterRegFormBlank.pdf>
  - vote-by-mail application: <https://vote.pa/mail/#0>
- Find your polling place by visiting your County website:
  - [Northamptoncounty.org](http://Northamptoncounty.org)
  - [lehighcounty.org](http://lehighcounty.org)