



Registering an Out-of-State Vehicle in Indiana

Moving to Indiana or buying a vehicle titled in another state? Use this checklist to register your out-of-state vehicle through the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).

QUICK ANSWER

New Indiana residents must title and register their vehicle with the Indiana BMV. You'll typically need the out-of-state title, a VIN inspection at a BMV branch for the out-of-state vehicle, proof of Indiana insurance, and payment of the title fee, 7% sales tax (if not already paid), and annual excise tax. Only Lake and Porter county residents need an emissions test. Confirm the current new-resident timeframe with the Indiana BMV.

KEY FACTS

State	Indiana
Agency	Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV)
Process	See official source
Notary required	Not specified
Bill of sale	Not specified
Odometer disclosure	Not specified
Last reviewed	July 6, 2026

QUICK REFERENCE

NOTARY Not specified	BILL OF SALE Not specified	ODOMETER Not specified	INSPECTION Conditional
-------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

Required checklist

- ☐ **Out-of-state title (properly assigned to you, if purchased)** **REQUIRED**
The existing title from the other state. If you purchased the vehicle, it must be signed over to you.
- ☐ **Government-issued photo ID (current Indiana address)** **REQUIRED**
Most states require proof of residency to register a vehicle.
- ☐ **Proof of Indiana address** **REQUIRED**
Utility bill, lease agreement, or other proof of current residency.
- ☐ **Proof of insurance meeting Indiana minimum requirements** **REQUIRED**
Insurance from an insurer licensed in Indiana.
- ☐ **Odometer disclosure statement** **CONDITIONAL**
Required if the vehicle is under 10 years old.
- ☐ **VIN verification (may be required)** **CONDITIONAL**
Some states require a physical VIN inspection by law enforcement or a DMV inspector.
- ☐ **Safety and/or emissions inspection (if required)** **CONDITIONAL**
Check whether your state requires an inspection before registration.
- ☐ **Payment for title and registration fees** **REQUIRED**

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Inspection: Conditional — Out-of-state vehicles require a VIN inspection at a BMV branch. An emissions test applies only to Lake and Porter county residents.

STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

- 1 Establish residency in Indiana (get a local address if you haven't).
- 2 Obtain the out-of-state title (properly assigned to you, if purchased).



- 3 Check whether Indiana requires a VIN verification or safety/emissions inspection.
- 4 Complete any required inspections.
- 5 Submit the title, application, ID, proof of insurance, and fees to the state motor vehicle agency.
- 6 Surrender the out-of-state plates if required.
- 7 Receive your new Indiana title and registration.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Not getting the required BMV VIN inspection for the out-of-state vehicle.
- Assuming an emissions test is needed statewide — only Lake and Porter counties require it.
- Not budgeting for sales tax if it wasn't paid in your previous state.
- Waiting too long after moving — confirm the current window with the Indiana BMV.

OFFICIAL SOURCES

Indiana BMV — Titles

<https://www.in.gov/bmv/titles/buying-and-selling/>

Indiana BMV

<https://www.in.gov/bmv/>