



Registering an Out-of-State Vehicle in New Jersey

Moving to New Jersey or buying a vehicle titled in another state? Use this checklist to register your out-of-state vehicle through the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC).

QUICK ANSWER

New Jersey residents registering an out-of-state vehicle must title and register in person at an MVC agency, and New Jersey requires a state (emissions) inspection after registration. You'll typically need the out-of-state title, proof of New Jersey insurance from a NJ-licensed insurer, proof of address, and payment of the \$60 title fee and 6.625% sales tax if it wasn't already paid. Confirm the current new-resident timeframe with the New Jersey MVC.

KEY FACTS

State	New Jersey
Agency	New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC)
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
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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 New Jersey address)** **REQUIRED**
Most states require proof of residency to register a vehicle.
- ☐ **Proof of New Jersey address** **REQUIRED**
Utility bill, lease agreement, or other proof of current residency.
- ☐ **Proof of insurance meeting New Jersey minimum requirements** **REQUIRED**
Insurance from an insurer licensed in New Jersey.
- ☐ **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 — New Jersey requires a centralized state inspection, which is now emissions-only (safety inspections ended in 2010). Newer vehicles are exempt for the first several years; the buyer inherits the vehicle's current inspection status. Confirm timing with the New Jersey MVC.

STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

- 1 Establish residency in New Jersey (get a local address if you haven't).



- 2 Obtain the out-of-state title (properly assigned to you, if purchased).
- 3 Check whether New Jersey 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 New Jersey title and registration.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Trying to register with out-of-state insurance — New Jersey requires coverage from a NJ-licensed insurer.
- Overlooking the required New Jersey (emissions) inspection.
- Not budgeting for the 6.625% sales tax if it wasn't paid in your previous state.
- Going to an MVC agency without an appointment where one is required.

OFFICIAL SOURCES

New Jersey MVC — Vehicle Registration
<https://www.nj.gov/mvc/vehicles/regvehicles.htm>

New Jersey MVC
<https://www.nj.gov/mvc/>