



Delaware, Ohio Moving Checklist

Move to Delaware, Ohio · delawareohguide.com · the city of Delaware in Central Ohio, not the state of Delaware

Work through it in phases and check off as you go. Interactive version (saves your progress): delawareohguide.com/checklist

Move date:

New address:

8–12 weeks out RESEARCH

- ☐ Tour neighborhoods at the hour you would actually commute. Drive U.S. 23 and I-71, not just Saturday afternoon.
- ☐ Set a housing budget (buy or rent) and get mortgage pre-approval if you are purchasing. See the housing snapshot.
- ☐ Look up school districts by address. City limits, ZIP 43015, and district lines do not always match. Start with Delaware City Schools and nearby Olentangy, Buckeye Valley, and Big Walnut.
- ☐ Read the City of Delaware income tax page. Residents generally pay a **1.85%** municipal income tax — verify the current rate and filing rules with the city.
- ☐ Budget for overlapping rent/mortgage, deposits, movers, and first-month utilities.

4–6 weeks out LOCK IN LOGISTICS

- ☐ Sign a lease or purchase agreement. Photograph condition at walkthrough.
- ☐ Start City of Delaware utilities (water, sewer, stormwater, curbside trash/recycling) — Utility Billing, 740-203-1250 ext. 4. Renters may need a deposit.
- ☐ Set up electric (AEP Ohio territory is common) and shop Ohio's competitive retail electric options if you want.
- ☐ Get renter's or homeowner's insurance quotes with the Delaware, Ohio address.
- ☐ Gather school records and begin enrollment. Delaware City Schools registration is online.
- ☐ Find primary care, dental, and specialists accepting new patients (OhioHealth is a major local healthcare employer and system).
- ☐ Open or transfer bank accounts. Note local branches and any Ohio-specific tax documents your payroll will need.

1–2 weeks out PAPERWORK

- ☐ Transfer prescriptions and request medical records.
- ☐ Confirm movers or truck reservation. Pack a first-week box: documents, meds, chargers, linens, kettle.

- ☐ Review Ohio BMV new-resident steps: typically transfer driver's license, title, and registration **within 30 days** of establishing residency.
- ☐ Download trash/recycling guidance from the city and bookmark downtown parking/event pages.

Update your address WHO NEEDS TO KNOW

- ☐ **USPS change of address** at usps.com/move — online costs a \$1.25 identity-verification fee (free with PS Form 3575 at a Post Office). Allow 7–10 business days, and avoid third-party sites that charge more.
- ☐ Banks and credit unions — every checking, savings, and investment account.
- ☐ Credit card companies (also update saved billing addresses on cards you use online).
- ☐ Loan servicers: auto, student, and mortgage/HELOC.
- ☐ Insurance: auto, health, home or renters, and life. Auto and home rates are address-based, so ask for an updated quote.
- ☐ Employer payroll / HR so your W-2 and tax withholding use the new address (see the city income tax step below).
- ☐ Taxes: tell the IRS with Form 8822 (or use the new address on your next return — the IRS says to notify it even after a USPS change). For Ohio, update your address in OH|TAX eServices under *Manage names and addresses*.
- ☐ Social Security, VA, or other benefits, if you receive them — update through my Social Security or the agency that pays you.
- ☐ Subscriptions and online shopping accounts (default shipping address, streaming, memberships, magazines).
- ☐ Phone carrier and internet provider — the address on your phone account also matters for 911 location info.
- ☐ Doctors, dentist, and pharmacy (and the address printed on insurance cards).
- ☐ Kids' schools — both the one you are leaving (for records) and the new one.
- ☐ Voter registration: register or update your address with the Ohio Secretary of State. Ohio's deadline is 30 days before an election.
- ☐ Ohio BMV: already hold an Ohio license and moving within Ohio? You must report the new address **within 10 days** (BMV Online Services or form BMV 5756; ORC 4507.09). Coming from another state, you have **30 days** to transfer license, title, and registration — see the steps above and below.
- ☐ Pet microchip registry and your vet (and update or get a Delaware County dog license tag if you have a dog).

Moving week ON THE GROUND

- ☐ Final walkthrough of the old place. Photograph meter readings at both ends.
- ☐ Keep IDs, closing/lease papers, and medications with you — not in the truck.
- ☐ Meet utility techs if needed. Test water, heat/AC, and locks the first night.
- ☐ Unpack beds and kitchen first. Introduce yourself to neighbors.

- ☐ Walk downtown Delaware (Sandusky, Winter, and William Streets) so the city has a center of gravity on day one.

First 30 days BECOME A RESIDENT

- ☐ Get an Ohio driver's license and register vehicles at a deputy registrar. Bring proof of Ohio address.
- ☐ Confirm city trash and recycling are on your utility bill and note pickup day.
- ☐ Finish school enrollment and locate bus/start times.
- ☐ Ask payroll to withhold City of Delaware income tax if you live or work in the city. Residents generally must file a city return by April 15 even if no tax is due — confirm with the city income tax office.
- ☐ Establish care with a local doctor and transfer records.
- ☐ Go to a First Friday or Saturday Farmers Market. It is the fastest way to learn downtown.

Local offices LICENSE, TITLE & PLATES

Deputy Registrar (BMV license agency)

2079 U.S. Route 23 North, Suite 2,
Delaware, OH 43015
(740) 369-3552
Mon–Fri 8 a.m.–5 p.m. · Sat 8 a.m.–2 p.m.
publicsafety.ohio.gov/local-office/agency-2159

Clerk of Courts Title Office

Frank B. Willis Government Building, 2079
U.S. Route 23 North, Suite 1, Delaware,
OH 43015
(740) 833-2490
Mon–Fri 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. · Sat 8 a.m.–noon (closed holiday-weekend Saturdays — call ahead)
clerkofcourts.co.delaware.oh.us/auto-title-division/

Delaware Welcome Center

20 E. William St., Delaware, OH 43015
(740) 362-6050
Call ahead — hours are not published on the official site
www.mainstreetdelaware.com/contact-us/

Notes

General information only — not legal, tax, or financial advice. Verify rules, fees, and deadlines with official sources (City of Delaware, Ohio BMV, Ohio Secretary of State, IRS, USPS). Updated October 2026. Not affiliated with the City of Delaware, Ohio State University, or Ohio Wesleyan University.