

# SAN ANTONIO NEWCOMER FACTS



**Auto and Driver's Licenses** Permanent residents of Texas must obtain a Texas driver's license and Texas license plates within 30 days of arrival. For more information, visit [txdmv.gov/motorists/register-your-vehicle](https://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/register-your-vehicle). Thereafter, registration must be renewed annually. You can also register/renew via walk-in at a Bexar County Tax Office location. If you already have a current driver's license, you need only take a written test to obtain a Texas driver's license. Visit [dps.texas.gov](https://www.dps.texas.gov) to find a testing location near you. If your driver's license has expired, you will have to take the driving test as well. Driver's licenses are issued for four years.

**Auto Insurance** In Texas, automobiles must be covered by minimum limits of liability insurance in accordance with the Texas Motor Safety Responsibility Act of 1981. Minimum limits are \$30,000-\$60,000 bodily injury liability and \$25,000 property damage liability. These are required for any licensed motor vehicle. Current proof of financial responsibility is required (usually auto insurance) to obtain or renew a driver's license, register a car, and upon issuance of a vehicle inspection sticker.

**Auto Inspection** Annual auto inspections are required and must be completed before registering the auto in Texas or obtaining a Texas license plate. Vehicle inspections are done at some local gas stations & repair shops. Visit [dps.texas.gov](https://www.dps.texas.gov) for more information.

**Low Water Crossings** Low water crossings are marked by a large ruler-like device sticking out of the ground. Drivers are urged, especially in sudden and violent thunderstorms during spring and fall, to heed these warnings. Because of the intensity of these storms, many areas and roads flood quickly. Cars often stall in these low water crossings, and people have been swept to their deaths by swift currents. Also, drivers not heeding low water crossing barricades can be ticketed and fined, and a driver needing rescue after driving past a low water crossing barricade will be billed for the cost of the emergency rescue.

**Voter Registration** You may register to vote as soon as you arrive in San Antonio, and you may vote in any election 30 days after you register. Visit [www.bexar.org/1701/Voter-Registration](https://www.bexar.org/1701/Voter-Registration) for more info.



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