

The Houston relocation checklist

Sequenced from 90 days out to your first month, built from the same diligence our guides teach.

90 days out

- Run the match with your work hub and shortlist three communities.
- Check FEMA zone at each candidate address (msc.fema.gov) and price flood insurance.
- Look up TEA ratings for the districts your shortlisted addresses feed.
- Ask employers about relocation stipends before you sign anything.
- Get quotes from two movers for your window; summer dates book out first.
- Pull your credit reports and dispute anything stale.

60 days out

- Tour in person or on video at your real commute hours, not a Saturday morning.
- Price total monthly spend: rent or mortgage plus insurance, utilities, and tolls.
- If buying: get pre-approved, then verify MUD/HOA layers for specific properties.
- Collect school records, transcripts, and immunization forms for each child.

- Request time off for moving week in writing.

30 days out

- Give written notice per your lease; photograph the unit on move-out day.
- File USPS mail forwarding; update your address with banks and licenses.
- Schedule utility transfers: electricity, gas, water, internet (Houston summers wait for no one).
- Confirm the flood profile one more time at the exact new address.
- Pack an essentials box: documents, chargers, meds, two weeks of clothes.

First week

- Get your Texas driver license within 90 days of residency.
- Register vehicles and update insurance to the new garage address.
- Register children with their zoned campuses using district verification, not neighborhood names.
- Locate your nearest Harris County or municipal flood resources; save the links.
- Meet the neighbors on both sides; they know which streets pond in a storm.

First month

- Review your first utility bills against the estimates you budgeted.
- Re-quote auto insurance; rates change meaningfully by ZIP.
- Drive your commute at peak times at least twice before finalizing routines.
- Calendar the next TEA accountability release if schools drove your decision.

Flood steps reference FEMA's official viewer; school steps reference Texas Education Agency accountability data. Sources are linked throughout this site's guides.

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