

Vehicle Ownership (or Leasing) Documents

You need to keep these documents in your car as proof of legal possession.

- **Car Insurance:** There are many car insurance companies in the U.S. with offices in the Pittsburgh area. Take the time to research the different options, prices, and benefits offered by those insurance companies (like student discounts). You **will not** be able to purchase a car from a dealership without proof of car insurance. Keep the proof of your insurance (insurance card) in your car.
- **Car Registration (updated yearly):** When you purchase or lease a car from a dealership, they can help you register your car for 1 year. Each year after that, you will have to renew your vehicle registration from PennDot (PA Department of Transportation). Follow the instructions to renew your registration. Keep the updated registration document in your car.
- **Car Inspection (updated yearly):** Each year when you renew your vehicle registration, you also need to take your car to a service station to get a yearly PA state inspection and emissions test. They will put a sticker on your front windshield with proof that you got this done.

This list is intended to get you started in the vehicle ownership process. Please talk to professionals at PennDot, insurance companies, and car dealerships to learn more.



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