

Tax + License



State Income Tax

Michigan has a flat income tax rate of 4.25%.

Michigan Sales/Use Tax

Michigan's sales and use tax rate is 6%, with no local taxes.

Property Taxes

Property taxes are levied by the state, schools, Residents under 18 must complete Michigan's Plainwell Customer Graduated Driver's Licensing (GDL) program. cities, counties, and special jurisdictions.

Vehicle Title + License

New Michigan residents must title and register vehicles at a Secretary of State branch with proof of Michigan insurance and the out-of-state title. If the title is held by a lienholder or leasing company, provide the previous state registration. Michigan issues registration-only plates without converting the title, with fees based on the vehicle MSRP.

Secretary of State- Ottawa County

587 East 8th Street Suite 90
(888) 767.6424
michigan.gov/sos

Cell Phone Use and Texting

Michigan law bans drivers from using or holding mobile devices, including for texting, calls, videos, or social media.

Driver's License

Adults (18+) must provide proof of identity, pass a vision test, and meet physical and mental standards. Knowledge and road tests may be waived with a valid out-of-state license. The state will add your previous driving record to your Michigan record.

Residents under 18 must complete Michigan's Graduated Driver's Licensing (GDL) program.

A REAL ID-compliant license or ID, marked with a gold star, is required for domestic flights and access to certain federal facilities. These are available at Secretary of State offices.

Seat Belt Law

Michigan law requires all front-seat passengers and those under 16 to wear seat belts, with children secured in approved safety seats.

Children must use a car or booster seat until age 8 or 4'9", whichever comes first. Children under 4 must ride in a rear-seat car seat unless all rear seats are occupied. A rear-facing car seat in the front seat requires the airbag to be turned off.

Law enforcement can ticket drivers solely for seat belt violations under Michigan's primary seat belt law.

Recreational Vehicle Registration

Michigan requires registration for mopeds, watercraft, and snowmobiles through the Secretary of State. Watercraft 20 feet or longer and those with permanently affixed engines must also be titled.

Hunting + Fishing Licenses

Hunting permit fees vary by residency and game. Fishing licenses are required for anyone 17 or older, with short-term options available. Carry your license and ID when hunting or fishing. For details on fees, residency, and hunter education, contact:

Service Center
(269) 685.6851
michigan.gov/dnr

License / Pet License

Michigan law requires dogs to be vaccinated and licensed by four months old, with relicensing every 1-3 years based on the license type. Fines apply for unlicensed pets. Wild or exotic animals need entry permits.

Allegan County
(269) 673.0205
allegancounty.org

Ottawa County
(616) 994.4501
miottawa.org

License / Voter Resources

To vote in Michigan, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old by the next election, and a Michigan resident for 30 days prior. In-person registration is allowed up to election day. Re-registration is only required if you move or change your name.

Michigan Voter Information Center:
michigan.gov/vote

