MARCOS DIAZ
Real Estate

FREE GUIDE

Moving to Sioux Falls

Your new-resident checklist: utilities, license and plates, schools, and things to love.

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Welcome to Sioux Falls

Sioux Falls is one of the fastest-growing cities in the Midwest, and it is easy to see why: friendly neighborhoods, a strong job market, great parks, and no state personal income tax in South Dakota. This guide covers the practical stuff so your move goes smoothly.

Set up your utilities

- **Electricity:** most of Sioux Falls is served by **Xcel Energy**. Some areas are served by the City of Sioux Falls or by rural electric co-ops such as Sioux Valley Energy. Check which company serves your address.
- **Natural gas:** most of Sioux Falls is served by **MidAmerican Energy**.
- **Water and sewer:** City of Sioux Falls Utility Billing, 231 N Dakota Ave, (605) 367-8131, water@siouxfalls.gov. Towns like Tea, Harrisburg and Brandon have their own city utilities.
- **Trash and recycling:** handled by private haulers in Sioux Falls. You choose your own company.
- **Internet:** several providers serve the area; compare by address.

> Start utilities about two weeks before your move-in date so everything is on when you arrive.

Driver's license

New residents have **90 days** to get a South Dakota driver's license. Visit a Department of Public Safety driver exam station in person. The Sioux Falls exam station moved in June 2026 to **1501 S Highline Ave, Suite 1B**. Bring proof of identity, proof of your Social Security number and two proofs of South Dakota residency; see the full list at dps.sd.gov. You can schedule an appointment online. The driver license application, study manuals and written test are also available in Spanish.

Vehicle title and plates

Vehicle titles and registration are handled by your **county treasurer** (Minnehaha County for most of Sioux Falls, Lincoln County for the south side, Tea and Harrisburg). New residents generally have 90 days. Bring your out-of-state title, your South Dakota driver's license, your Social Security number and the state title and registration application. In South Dakota, license plates stay with the owner, not the car.

Register to vote

Once you have a South Dakota address, you can register to vote through the South Dakota Secretary of State (sdsos.gov) or your county auditor.

Schools

The Sioux Falls area is served by several public school districts, including Sioux Falls, Harrisburg, Tea Area, Brandon Valley, West Central (Hartford), Tri-Valley (Crooks), Lennox, Canton and Garretson. District lines do not always follow city limits, so always confirm the district for a specific address.

Things to love about Sioux Falls

- **Falls Park:** the city's namesake waterfalls, right downtown
- **Downtown and SculptureWalk:** shops, restaurants and outdoor art
- **Big Sioux River Greenway:** a bike and walking trail that loops around the city
- **Great Plains Zoo** and the **Washington Pavilion**
- **Denny Sanford PREMIER Center:** concerts and big events
- **Good Earth State Park** just southeast of town, and **Newton Hills** near Canton

Moving checklist

- ☐ Book movers or a trailer
- ☐ Forward your mail (USPS)
- ☐ Start electric, gas, water and trash
- ☐ Set up internet
- ☐ Get your SD driver's license (90 days)
- ☐ Title and register vehicles
- ☐ Register to vote
- ☐ Enroll kids in school
- ☐ Find a doctor, dentist and vet

Sources: City of Sioux Falls Utility Billing; Sioux Falls Development Foundation (utilities); SD Department of Public Safety (dps.sd.gov); SD Department of Revenue (dor.sd.gov). Details can change; confirm with each office.



READY FOR THE NEXT STEP?

Let's talk.

I'm Marcos Diaz, a bilingual REALTOR® with Keller Williams Realty Sioux Falls. I help buyers and sellers move with confidence, in English or Spanish.

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