

BEING A SAFE DRIVER PAYS OFF!

Generally, a driver with a solid record of safe driving will save more on their premiums than a driver with a history of unsafe habits.

IMPORTANT SAFETY TIPS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- ✓ **Wear your seat belt.**
- ✓ **Obey the speed limit.**
- ✓ **Phones down!** In Ohio, it's a primary offense for drivers to hold a cell phone or other electronic device while driving. Additionally, it's illegal for drivers under 18 to use an electronic device in any way while driving, including hands-free features.

Also, don't forget to shop around. Ohio has a robust insurance marketplace, which means drivers have access to some of the lowest auto insurance premiums in the nation! Check out several insurers to compare costs and find the coverage that works best for you.

Brought to you by:

Ohio Insurance Institute
172 E. State Street, Suite 201
Columbus, OH 43215
www.ohioinsurance.org



For more information on Ohio's financial responsibility laws and ways to comply, including alternatives to purchasing insurance, see Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4509 or visit Insurance.ohio.gov/consumers/automobile.

BASICS OF AUTO INSURANCE



For New Drivers



KEY TERMS

Policy: A written contract for insurance between you and your company.

Premium: The amount you pay to your insurer regularly to keep a policy in force. Your payment plan will depend on your insurance company and your specific policy.

Deductible: The portion of a covered loss you pay before the insurance company becomes responsible for the payment under the policy.

WHAT IS INSURANCE?

At its core, insurance is the financial safety net that protects our homes, automobiles, businesses, and loved ones from unexpected costs that come from covered events. **For drivers, automobile insurance decreases out-of-pocket expenses by helping to pay for covered losses resulting from a crash.** This includes costs related to damage to cars and other property, as well as injuries to you, your passengers, and others involved.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

1 IT'S THE LAW

In Ohio, it's illegal to drive any motor vehicle without proof of financial responsibility, which for most Ohioans means purchasing insurance.

2 IT MAKES FINANCIAL SENSE

Without auto insurance, if you cause a crash with property damage and/or bodily injury, the costs could be financially devastating. Insurance adds predictability and stability to your budget and future financial plans.

If found in violation of the financial responsibility law, the penalties increase with each subsequent violation.

TYPES OF AUTO INSURANCE COVERAGE

When it comes to insurance, one size doesn't fit all. Though **bodily injury and property damage liability coverage are the minimum requirements for auto insurance in Ohio, it's a good idea to consider all types of coverage options:**

Bodily Injury Liability Coverage pays for medical expenses if you're at fault for a crash that injures another person.

Property Damage Liability Coverage pays for repairs if you cause a crash that damages someone else's property.

Collision Coverage pays for damage to your car from a crash regardless of fault.

Comprehensive Coverage pays for damage to your car caused by almost anything other than a collision, including glass breakage, theft, fire, explosion, impact with an animal, vandalism, flood, and earthquake.

Towing & Labor Coverage pays up to a stated amount for towing your car and any labor required at the scene when your car becomes disabled.

Uninsured/Underinsured Motorists Coverage:

Unfortunately, not everyone purchases enough coverage to pay for damages resulting from a crash – and some people don't purchase any auto insurance at all. Additional coverage is available to protect you against costs you may incur because of a crash caused by an uninsured or underinsured motorist.

