

The "New Driver's Guide to Auto Insurance" outlines essential information regarding auto insurance for new drivers, emphasizing its legal necessity and financial protection. Car insurance is mandated by law, and without it, drivers risk paying out-of-pocket for injuries and property damage they cause. Statistics indicate that young drivers, particularly those aged 16 to 19, face a significantly higher risk of accidents, with car accidents being the leading cause of death in this age group. In the event of an accident, drivers should exchange critical information with the other party, including names, addresses, driver's license details, and insurance information.

For those shopping for auto insurance, the Arizona Department of Insurance offers resources and premium comparisons. Choosing not to obtain car insurance can lead to severe financial consequences, including fines ranging from \$500 to \$1,000, potential suspension of vehicle registration and driver's license, vehicle impoundment, and increased insurance rates in the future. To meet legal requirements, drivers must purchase minimum liability coverage, which includes \$15,000 for medical expenses per person, \$30,000 total for all injuries in one accident, and \$10,000 for property damage. However, this minimum coverage may not suffice to cover all damages, leaving the driver liable for any excess.

The guide notes that while insurance for personal vehicle damage or theft is not legally required, lenders may mandate it if there is an outstanding loan. To protect against such risks, drivers should consider purchasing collision and comprehensive coverage. To reduce insurance costs, drivers are encouraged to maintain a clean driving record, choose safe vehicles, achieve good academic performance for potential discounts, consider higher deductibles, inquire about discounts for driver education, and shop around for competitive rates. The guide also provides contact information for the Arizona Department of Insurance for inquiries or complaints regarding insurance issues. Additionally, it offers links to resources for driving safety and encourages responsible driving practices.