

Save Big on Auto Insurance

The Motley Foll

By Elizabeth Brokamp

If saving money is at the top of your list of New Year's resolutions for 2007, then you'll want to get on the phone with your auto insurance company. You may be in for a treat in the form of a discount, whether it's because of your age, your exemplary behavior, or the type of car you drive.

Here's a peek at discounts sometimes offered by major carriers such as **Geico** , **Allstate** , **State Farm** , and **Progressive** . Grab a magnifying glass to check the specifics of your policy, or just give your insurance carrier a call to determine your eligibility.

Rewards for your wheels

Your insurer may offer a host of discounts, simply based on the type of car you drive or its features. For example, you may be eligible for savings if you have:

Your maturity quotient

According to your insurance company, you're not just getting older, you're getting better. You'll save with many insurance companies if you're: and retired

It's not just a job; it's a discount

Who knew your career wasn't just good for a paycheck? You may get a discount, if you're:

On your best behavior

Insurance companies reward good behavior; consider it a behavior modification system for grownups. You may save if you:

good credit are a low-mileage driver have been accident-free for five years have taken a defensive driving course (typically only elective courses, not mandated ones) are a good student (with restrictions) are a resident student regularly use your seat belt take a driver's ed course (for young drivers) carry multiple types of insurance (home and auto) from the same carrier renew your policy (or in some cases, if you're bringing "new business")

It's all up to the states

You'll also want to grill your insurance carrier about state-specific benefits. For example, Geico offers qualifying college graduates in Arkansas a discount, while in Delaware, Geico will offer you a break if you use Travelling, a traffic reduction driving program.

To obtain a discount from your insurance carrier, you'll want to:

Need some more valuable money-saving tips? Give our new personal finance service, *Motley Fool GreenLight*, a try. We'll get you on the road to financial freedom in no time.

Fool contributor Elizabeth Brokamp is a licensed professional counselor with a special interest in Robert Brokamp, editor of The Motley Fool's Rule Your Retirement newsletter.

This feature may not be reproduced or distributed electronically, in print or other wise without the written permission of uclick and Universal Press Syndicate.