

State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INSURANCE CHECKLIST FOR THE NEW YEAR

Are you prepared for 2015?

BOISE ID (January 22, 2015) – The start of a new year is a great time to reevaluate insurance policies and be sure they meet current needs. The Idaho Department of Insurance encourages consumers to make an appointment with their insurance agents to review coverage.

“Your agent can help determine whether your current policies provide adequate coverage,” says Tom Donovan, Department Acting Director. “Even if you haven’t experienced a life changing event, you could be eligible for discounts or new insurance products may better serve your needs.”

Changing circumstances may lead to different insurance needs. Did you have a baby? Get married? Purchase a new home or car? If so, you'll want to check whether you have the right fit in policy protection.

Your agent or company can help determine whether your current policies provide adequate coverage or if you might need more or less. Even if you haven't experienced a life changing event, you could be eligible for discounts or new insurance products may better serve your needs.

This is also a great time to update your home inventory and make sure your homeowners or rental policy is up-to-date. Take photos or video of your prized possessions. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners has a free smartphone app, myHOME Scr.APP book, to help with the inventory process. Download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

You may have recently enrolled or changed your health insurance whether through your employer, Medicare or Your Health Idaho. Make sure you have new insurance cards. Before you visit a doctor, verify that your paperwork is in order.

Insurance fraud can happen to anyone, anywhere. Protect yourself in 2015 and beyond by following the tips below:

- Don't give out any personal information—like your social security number or bank information—over the phone until you have verified the legitimacy of the insurance company and agent with the Department.
- Ask for copies of everything you sign and keep a copy of the payment receipt or check for the initial premium payment you gave the agent for the policy.
- Call the insurance company if you don't receive a copy of the insurance policy outlining your coverage and its limitations within 30 days of your purchase.
- Research the agent and company you're considering. Before writing your check or signing the contract, contact the Department to verify they are licensed.

For more insurance tips and information, contact the Department by visiting www.doi.idaho.gov or by calling 334-4250 in the Boise area or 800-721-3272 toll-free statewide.

About the Department of Insurance

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to equitably, effectively and efficiently administer the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit www.doi.idaho.gov.

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