

Assignments

Financial Plan Assignments

There are several different assignments for this chapter. Having auto insurance is a critical part of owning and driving a car; in fact, it is illegal to drive a car unless you have insurance. Your assignment is to get a copy of your auto insurance and include it in your financial plan and include these in your [PFP Insurance Template](#) (LT01-09).

Auto insurance. Look at your credit score if it is reported on your policy. The credit score shown on your policy should be consistent with the credit score you received from the credit-scoring agencies for an earlier assignment. Improving your credit score can lower the cost of your auto and other insurance.

Look at the discounts on your policy, such as discounts for good students, good drivers, multiple cars, and so on. Call your insurance provider and find out if there are any other discounts you qualify for. Discounts can reduce the cost of your insurance policy.

Review each of the four basic parts of your insurance: liability coverage, medical coverage, uninsured/underinsured coverage, and comprehensive physical damage coverage. What are your liability limits? If you have split coverage, how is the coverage split? Remember that most state requirements for liability insurance were set more than 30 years ago; these requirements are generally insufficient, given the rising costs of medical and automobile repair. If you must reduce your insurance costs, increase your deductible rather than reducing your liability limits.

Homeowners/renters insurance. If you own a home or a condo, get a copy of your homeowner's policy and review it carefully. Which type of homeowner's insurance do you have? Is your homeowner's insurance sufficient for your needs? Does it cover the current value of your home? What could you do to improve your coverage?

Liability insurance. Do you have a need for umbrella coverage? As the size of your assets increases, umbrella insurance may be something to look into.

Find out what insurance companies see when they look at your insurance reports. Under the FACT Act of 2003 (Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act) you can obtain a free copy of the following reports each year from the Comprehensive Liability Underwriting Exchange, or CLUE:

- CLUE Auto: A five-year loss-history report is generated if a loss is filed against your automobile insurance policy and the insurance company reports the information to CLUE.
- CLUE Personal Property: A five-year loss-history report is generated if a loss is filed against your homeowner's insurance policy and the insurance company provides this information to CLUE.

To get both CLUE reports, go to www.choicetrust.com, click on *CLUE Reports*, click on *CLUE*

reports again, then *order options*, then *both reports*, then *new member*. Fill out the information for new members, including Social Security number, driver's license number, and address. Then verify the information and obtain the reports. If claims that the insurance company has paid are shown on these reports, copy the reports and include them in your Personal Financial Plan. You can also dispute the information if it is not correct or if you are planning on switching insurance companies.