

**Your Auto Policy is Renewing:  
Be Prepared -- Know Your Options**

As your policy is about to renew, now is the ideal time to review your options and ensure you have adequate coverage.

To assist you, we have summarized the Accident Benefits available to you via your auto policy in the following chart.

**Ontario Auto Reforms:  
Understand how your Auto Policy Works  
for Different Types of Injury**

In September of 2010, the government implemented Ontario Auto Insurance Reforms aimed at reducing fraud and resulting in changes to the Statutory Accident Benefits that form your auto insurance policy -- the benefits you may receive if you are injured in an automobile accident, regardless of who is at fault.

**Unfortunately, 54% of Ontarians involved in auto accidents suffer from some sort of injury.**

Since reforms were implemented, injuries resulting from auto accidents have been placed into three categories which determine the level of benefits available to a claimant: Catastrophic, Serious or Minor.

As the testing process required to be deemed as ‘catastrophically’ injured is extremely stringent, fewer than 10% of accident victims will end up qualifying for the higher level of accident benefits provided under the catastrophic category.

Instead, many accident victims will be deemed to have sustained “serious” injuries, such as broken bones or severe strains that can disrupt quality of life for a prolonged period of time.

Others will have sustained injuries deemed to be ‘minor,’ limiting medical and rehabilitation accident benefits to \$3,500, regardless of the coverage level selected.

Benefit	Standard Coverage Under New Auto Policy	Options to Increase Your Coverage	Who Would Benefit From Increasing This Coverage?
<p><b>Medical, Rehabilitation &amp; Attendant Care</b> Coverage for the cost of reasonable and necessary medical and rehabilitation expenses not covered by OHIP or a Disability Plan e.g. physiotherapy, prescriptions, prosthetics, home and vehicle modifications, etc.</p>	<p><b>For Non-catastrophic injuries</b> \$50,000 Medical &amp; Rehabilitation, including assessment costs \$36,000 Attendant Care (\$3,000/month) <b>For Catastrophic injuries</b> \$1,000,000 Medical &amp; Rehabilitation, including assessment costs \$1,000,000 Attendant Care</p>	<p><b>For Non-catastrophic injuries</b> <b>\$100,000</b> Medical &amp; Rehabilitation, including assessment costs <b>\$72,000</b> Attendant Care (\$3,000/month) <b>For Catastrophic injuries</b> An additional \$1,000,000 for Medical &amp; Rehabilitation and Attendant Care (shared limit)</p>	<p>The limit for this type of coverage can be quickly eroded as assessment (examination) costs are now included within the limit. For this reason, and as any accident resulting in a serious injury would likely require higher limits, all policyholders would benefit from increased limits.  Increased limits are also strongly recommended to anyone without a Disability Plan or adequate Group Benefits.</p>
<p><b>Caregiver</b> Coverage for expenses incurred to hire someone to care for your dependents if you are unable to do so as result of an injury from an auto accident.</p>	<p>Up to \$250 per week for the first dependent plus \$50 for each additional dependent <b>For Catastrophic injuries only</b></p>	<p>Up to \$250 per week for the first dependent plus \$50 for each additional dependent <b>For all injuries</b></p>	<p>Increased Caregiver and Housekeeping and Home Maintenance Benefits are available as a package and cannot be purchased separately.  This package is recommended for:</p>
<p><b>Housekeeping &amp; Home Maintenance</b> Coverage for expenses incurred to hire someone to complete your usual housekeeping and home maintenance duties if you are unable to do so as a result of an injury from an auto accident.</p>	<p>Up to \$100 per week <b>For Catastrophic injuries only</b></p>	<p>Up to \$100 per week <b>For all injuries</b></p>	<p>• Any stay-at-home parent or full-time caregiver to a dependent (child or parent).  This package is not recommended for anyone who is employed, as Caregiver Benefits cannot be collected in addition to Income Replacement Benefits (<i>See Dependent Care</i>).</p>
<p><b>Income Replacement</b> Coverage for basic weekly Income Replacement if you are unable to work as a result of an injury from an auto accident.</p>	<p>70% of gross income, up to \$400 per week <b>Benefits commence after one week.</b></p>	<p>70% of gross income, with increased limit of up to \$600, \$800 or \$1000 per week <b>Benefits commence after one week.</b></p>	<p>Increased Income Replacement coverage is recommended for:  • Anyone who earns more than \$400/week • Anyone without a loss of income benefit plan in place to provide sufficient income in case of becoming injured in an auto accident and being unable to work.</p>
<p><b>Dependent Care</b> Coverage to hire someone to care for your dependents if you are employed and unable to work as a result of an injury from an auto accident.</p>	<p>Not provided.</p>	<p>Up to \$75 per week for the first dependent and up to \$25 per week for the second dependent, to a maximum of \$150 per week  Only available if receiving Income Replacement Benefits</p>	<p>The Dependent Care benefit is recommended for:  • Anyone who is employed and who is also a part-time caregiver to a dependent (child or parent)</p>
<p><b>Death</b> Payment made to dependents and spouses in the event you die in an auto accident. <b>Funeral</b> Coverage for funeral expenses in the event you die in an auto accident.</p>	<p>\$25,000 lump sum to an eligible spouse plus \$10,000 lump sum to each dependent  Up to a maximum of \$6,000.</p>	<p>\$50,000 lump sum to an eligible spouse plus \$20,000 lump sum to each dependent  Up to a maximum of \$8,000.</p>	<p>Increased Death &amp; Funeral Benefits are recommended for:  • Anyone wishing to ensure a spouse or dependents do not have to absorb funeral costs • Anyone without a separate Life Insurance Policy.</p>
<p><b>Indexation Benefit</b> Automatic adjustment of benefits according to the Consumer Price Index for Canada to compensate for inflation.</p>	<p>Not provided.</p>	<p>Annual adjustments according to the Consumer Price Index of Canada.</p>	<p>Indexation Benefits are recommended for:  • Policyholders who have increased any limits • Younger policyholders who, in the case of a serious accident, may require many years of benefit payments.</p>
<p><b>Tort Deductible</b> Amount deducted from a settlement or court award for pain and suffering as a result of an auto accident.</p>	<p>\$30,000 deductible applicable to non-pecuniary damages under Tort. \$15,000 deductible applicable to Family Law Act Claims.</p>	<p>\$20,000 deductible for court awarded pain &amp; suffering. \$10,000 deductible for Family Law Act Claims.</p>	<p>The Tort Deductible is recommended for:  • Policyholders who may sue a negligent third party as a result of serious injuries (as per the definition of “threshold”).  <i>(Keeping in mind that the Tort Deductible is waived for all Non-Pecuniary Awards over \$100,000).</i></p>