

THE MCINTYRE GROUP
INSURANCE BROKERS & CONSULTANTS

For Your Safety



Reducing Workplace Auto Accident Risks

The main cause of on-the-job fatalities is automobile accidents. One of the best ways to reduce the amount of deaths and injuries from traffic accidents is to implement effective risk management strategies. These strategies are also useful for lowering the possibility of liability lawsuits that come as a result of accidents in which employees are involved.

There are several ways to lower the risk of auto accidents on the job. One way to lower risks is to require motor vehicle record checks. It's best to obtain motor vehicle records of all employees. Be sure to collect records from states of previous residence or work. One step every employer knows is essential is prohibiting the use of alcohol and certain nonprescription drugs while on the job. It's important to strictly enforce these rules. In the case of substance abuse or intoxication being present and proven, it's important to deal with the issue with a safety-oriented procedure.



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Although seat belts are required by law, many drivers still do not wear them. Every employer should enforce strict seat belt policies for drivers and passengers. Another way to lower risks of auto

accidents on the job is to prohibit the use of cell phones while driving. Employees who are allowed to leave their phones on or need them for business should be taught to pull over and stop before talking on a cell phone. Some employees may need to modify dangerous behaviors before taking the wheel. It's important for employers to be able to identify hostile or aggressive behavior. Employees

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with these traits create a risk for accidents on the road. Using proper security measures to prevent vandalism and theft of vehicles while stored on company property is also important.

Drivers should be required to report all off-duty accidents immediately. It's important to have a specific procedure to follow after an accident occurs. Employers should investigate each accident, determine the cause and utilize the results as a training opportunity for their employees. Use of vehicles for non-business purposes should be restricted or prohibited. Employers should review the motor vehicle records of each employee at least once annually. It's important to create a program for safe driving that includes speed awareness, speed control, safe following distance and the right techniques for using the brakes. Employers should also inspect and maintain vehicles regularly to ensure that they're safe. Drivers or employees who demonstrate responsible driving and avoid accidents should be rewarded. Providing rewards gives employees more motivation to drive safely. Work schedules should be created in a way that speeding is discouraged. The schedule shouldn't be so tight that it may make drivers feel the need to speed or practice other bad driving habits.

One of the best ways to reduce the amount of deaths and injuries from traffic accidents is to implement effective risk management strategies.



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