

4. Who has been convicted, within the five-year period immediately preceding application for or renewal of a policy of automobile insurance, of fraud or intent to defraud involving an insurance claim or an application for insurance;

5. Who has been successfully denied, with the immediately preceding five years' payment by an insurer of a claim in excess of \$1,000 under an automobile insurance policy, if there was evidence of fraud or intent to defraud involving the automobile insurance claim or application. For the purpose of this section:

i. If the claim has been subject to litigation between the insurer and the insured in which the insurer defended against payment of the claim in whole or in part on grounds of fraud, it shall be conclusively presumed that the claim was successfully denied if judgment was entered for the insurer in the litigation; and conclusively presumed that the claim was not successfully denied if judgment was entered for the insured;

ii. If the claim has not been subject to litigation between the insurer and the insured, but the insurer denied the claim without payment by reason of fraud, it shall be presumed that the claim was successfully denied. This presumption may be overcome in an administrative proceeding pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:3-33;

iii. If the incident was not reported to the New Jersey Office of Insurance Fraud Prosecutor pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:33A-9 it shall be presumed that there was no evidence of fraud or intent to defraud;

6. Whose automobile insurance policy has been cancelled for nonpayment of premiums or financed premium with a lapse of coverage of at least 30 days, within the immediately preceding two-year period, unless the premium due on a policy for which application has been made is paid in full before issuance or renewal of the policy. For the purpose of this section, "paid in full" shall not include any transaction in which a lender obtains authority from an insured to cancel the policy and receive a refund from the insurer in the event the insured defaults on a loan used to pay the premium;

7. Who fails to obtain or maintain membership or qualification for membership in a club, group, or organization, if membership is a uniform requirement of the insurer as a condition of providing insurance, and if the dues or charges, if any, or other conditions for membership or qualifications for membership are applied uniformly throughout this State, are not expressed as a percentage of the insurance premium, and do not vary with respect to the rating classification of the member or potential member except for the purpose of offering a membership fee to family units. Membership fees, if applicable, may vary in accordance with the amount or type of coverage if the purchase of additional coverage, either as to type or amount, is not a condition for reduction of dues or fees;

8. Whose driving record for the three year period immediately preceding the application for or renewal of a policy of automobile insurance has an accumulation of nine or more automobile insurance eligibility points as determined in N.J.A.C. 11:3-34.5; or

9. Who is a named insured or who is insured under the same policy as a person whose driver's license is suspended or revoked and either:

i. The suspended or revoked driver has been convicted of a violation of N.J.S.A. 39:6B-2 within the previous three years; or

ii. Other evidence exists indicating that the suspended or revoked driver has been operating a vehicle during the period of suspension.

(b) An "eligible person" includes a person who is an owner or registrant of an automobile registered in this State or who holds a valid New Jersey driver's license to operate an automobile and is domiciled in this State who is temporarily residing out-of-State and whose car may be principally garaged in another state while the person either is a full time student or is in the military service and is stationed out-of-State.

Emergency Amendment, R.1992 d.380, effective September 4, 1992 (expires November 3, 1992).

See: 24 N.J.R. 3420(a).

Text added to (a)6 to specify a lapse of at least 30 days.

Adopted Concurrent Proposal, R.1992 d.481, effective November 2, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 3420(a), 24 N.J.R. 4396(a).

Provisions of Emergency Amendment R.1992 d.380 readopted with changes effective December 7, 1992.

Emergency Amendment R.1993 d.135, effective March 1, 1993. (Operative March 8, 1993) (expires April 30, 1993.)

See: 25 N.J.R. 1290(a).

Definition of eligible person added at (b).

Adopted Concurrent Proposal, R.1993 d.238, effective April 30, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1290(a), 25 N.J.R. 2479(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.246, effective June 3, 1996.

See: 27 N.J.R. 2048(a), 28 N.J.R. 3002(b).

Added (a)9.

Amended by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).

Case Notes

Insured's nine ineligibility points justifies insured's nonrenewal of automobile policy. *Lawrence v. USAA Casualty Insurance Company*, 97 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 3.

Nonrenewal of automobile insurance policy was upheld where insured motorist exceeded maximum number of automobile insurance eligibility points. *Woo v. State Farm Insurance Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 99.

Insurer's nonrenewal of automobile policy justified when insured accumulates 10 eligibility points from two accidents for which insured is at fault. *Premi v. New Jersey Manufacturers Ins. Co.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 9.

Renewal of automobile policy for one period despite accumulation of points did not preclude nonrenewal in next period for same points. *Liberty Mutual v. Lee*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 38.

Accident in which insured was at fault, when combined with two other accidents in period of coverage, justified nonrenewal for accumu-

lation of too many points. *New Jersey Manufacturers v. Sandor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 36.

Accumulation of nine or more points by member of insured's household justified nonrenewal of auto policy, *Pandola v. State Farm*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 32.

Insured who was otherwise eligible for automobile insurance in voluntary market could obtain coverage for vehicles registered to her notwithstanding her husband's license suspension. *Kwok v. First Trenton*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 29.

Decision not to renew automobile insurance policy was improper. *Capasso v. State Farm Indemnity Company*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 59.

Eligibility points for accident prior to effective date of regulation not ex post facto violation. *Selective Insurance Company v. Diana*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 58.

11:3-34.5 Automobile insurance eligibility points

(a) Automobile insurance eligibility points shall be accumulated as a result of convictions, suspensions, revocations and determinations of responsibility for civil infractions in accordance with the schedule set forth in the Appendix to this subchapter herein incorporated by reference.

(b) Automobile insurance eligibility points shall be deemed to accrue as follows:

1. Points for an at-fault accident shall accrue on the date that total payment by the insurer equals or exceeds \$500.00. An insurer may, at its option, use the date of the accident or date of first payment provided, however, that the insurer shall not underwrite or rate any policy based on the accident until total payment by the insurer equals or exceeds \$500.00; and further provided that the insurer shall use the optional date consistently in all cases.

2. Points for conviction of motor vehicle violations and other events that are set forth on an abstract of drivers license records available from the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles, or comparable agency of another state, shall accrue when the event is recorded in the agency's records as evidenced by an abstract.

3. Points for each full year of court-imposed driver's license suspension within the preceding three years and points for each full year within the immediately preceding three years that a person has not held a driver's license shall accrue on the date of application for insurance.

(c) Automobile insurance eligibility points are cumulative and accrue for all offenses set forth on Schedules 1 and 2, except as noted on Schedule 1.

(d) Automobile insurance eligibility points set forth on Schedule 2 of the Appendix represent motor vehicle points established by the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles by rule, N.J.A.C. 13:19-10.1, which is hereby incorporated by reference. Any additions, deletions or modifications to N.J.A.C. 13:19-10.1 shall likewise be incorporated as of the effective date of amendment. Schedule 2 is included in the Appendix for convenience.

(e) The reference in Appendix Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 to provisions of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated is meant for convenience to assist in the quick identification of the nature of the event. If the event takes place in a state or province other than New Jersey, Schedule 1 and 2 should be consulted for identification of the specific misconduct committed and the assessment of the appropriate number of insurance eligibility points to be assessed.

Amended by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).
Added (e).

Case Notes

Police report established five-point at fault accident which, when combined with six-point speeding violations, justified insurer in declining to renew automobile policy. *Fichera v. Liberty Mutual*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 41.

Renewal of automobile policy for one period despite accumulation of points did not preclude nonrenewal in next period for same points. *Liberty Mutual v. Lee*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 38.

Accident in which insured was at fault, when combined with two other accidents in period of coverage, justified nonrenewal for accumulation of too many points. *New Jersey Manufacturers v. Sandor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 36.

Accumulation of nine or more points by member of insured's household justified nonrenewal of auto policy, *Pandola v. State Farm*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 32.

Accident resulting in payment of \$500 or more not recouped from another tort-feasor and not specifically excepted, and driver not excused under proportionate responsibility standard, was "at-fault accident" warranting eligibility points. *Amica Mutual Insurance Co. v. Kern*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 55.

Insured at-fault for automobile accident; insured could decline to renew insurance. *AMICA Mutual Insurance Co. v. Farley*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (INS) 51.

APPENDIX

Schedule of Automobile Insurance Eligibility Points

Schedule 1

N.J.S.A. Section Number If applicable	Event Description	DMV Event Identifier(s) If applicable	Points
39:4-50	Operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs	0450; 3261	9
39:4-50.4	Refusal to submit to a chemical test	4504	9
2C:11-2	Vehicular homicide	C115	9
39:3-40	Operating a motor vehicle while driving privilege is suspended	0340	9
39:6B-2	Operating a motor vehicle without liability insurance	06B2	9
39:6A-15	Misrepresentation of insurance coverage	6A15	9
	Each at fault accident		5
	* For each full year of a court imposed driver's license suspension within the preceding 3 years		3
	* For each full year within the immediately preceding 3 years that a person has not held a driver's license		1
	Involved in a fatal accident	EFTL;	4
		NFTL	2
39:3-37	Obtaining a driver's license or registration through deception	0337; 0312; 05D5; 1312; MSNJ; MSOS	5

N.J.S.A. Section Number	Event Description	DMV Event Identifier(s) If applicable	Points
39:3-38	Make or use counterfeit plate or plates other than issued	0338	5
39:3-38.1	Make, alter or counterfeit driver's license or registration	3381	5
	Failure to verify insurance involved in an automobile accident	FVIA	2

* Points for failure to hold a driver's license in the previous three years are not cumulative to points for driver's license suspension.

Schedule 2

N.J.S.A. Section Number	Offense	Points
27:23-29	Moving against traffic—New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, and Atlantic City Expressway	2
27:23-29	Improper passing—New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, and Atlantic City Expressway	4
27:23-29	Unlawful use of median strip—New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, and Atlantic City Expressway	2
39:3-20	Operating constructor vehicle in excess of 30 mph	3
39:4-14.3	Operating motorized bicycle on a restricted highway	2
39:4-14.3d	More than one person on a motorized bike	2
39:4-35	Failure to yield to pedestrian in crosswalk	2
39:4-36	Failure to yield to pedestrian in crosswalk; passing a vehicle yielding to pedestrian in crosswalk	2
39:4-41	Driving through a safety zone	2
39:4-52 & 39:5C-1	Racing on highway	5
39:4-55	Improper action or omission on grades and curves	2
39:4-57	Failure to observe direction of officer	2
39:4-66	Failure to stop vehicle before crossing sidewalk	2
39:4-66.1	Failure to yield to pedestrians or vehicles while entering or leaving highway	2
39:4-71	Operating a motor vehicle on a sidewalk	2
39:4-80	Failure to obey direction of officer	2
39:4-81	Failure to observe traffic signals	2
39:4-82	Failure to keep right	2
39:4-82.1	Improper operating of vehicle on divided highway or divider	2
39:4-83	Failure to keep right at intersection	2
39:4-84	Failure to pass to right of vehicle proceeding in opposite direction	5
39:4-85	Improper passing on right or off roadway	4
39:4-85.1	Wrong way on a one-way street	2
39:4-86	Improper passing in no passing zone	4
39:4-87	Failure to yield to overtaking vehicle	2
39:4-88	Failure to observe traffic lanes	2
39:4-89	Tailgating	5
39:4-90	Failure to yield at intersection	2
39:4-90.1	Failure to use proper entrances to limited access highways	2
39:4-91 & 39:4-92	Failure to yield to emergency vehicles	2
39:4-96	Reckless driving	5
39:4-97	Careless driving	2
39:4-97a	Destruction of agricultural or recreational property	2
39:4-97.1	Slow speed blocking traffic	2
39:4-98 & 39:4-99	Exceeding maximum speed 1-14 mph over limit	2

N.J.S.A. Section Number	Offense	Points
	Exceeding maximum speed 15-29 mph over limit	4
	Exceeding maximum speed 30 mph or more over limit	5
39:4-105	Failure to stop for traffic light	2
39:4-115	Improper turn at traffic light	3
39:4-119	Failure to stop at flashing red signal	2
39:4-122	Failure to stop for police whistle	2
39:4-123	Improper right or left turn	3
39:4-124	Improper turn from approved turning course	3
39:4-125	Improper "U" turn	3
39:4-126	Failure to give proper signal	2
39:4-127	Improper backing or turning in street	2
39:4-127.1	Improper crossing of railroad grade crossing	2
39:4-127.2	Improper crossing of bridge	2
39:4-128	Improper crossing of railroad grade crossing by certain vehicles	2
39:4-128.1	Improper passing of school bus	5
39:4-128.4	Improper passing of a frozen dessert truck	4
39:4-129	Leaving the scene of an accident	
	No personal injury	2
	Personal injury	8
39:4-144	Failure to observe "stop" or "yield" signs	2
39:5D-4	Moving violation out-of-state	2

Amended by R.1996 d.58, effective February 5, 1996.
See: 27 N.J.R. 3682(a), 28 N.J.R. 855(a).

**SUBCHAPTER 35. PRIVATE PASSENGER
AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE
UNDERWRITING RULES**

11:3-35.1 Purpose and scope

(a) This subchapter implements N.J.S.A. 17:29A-46 which requires that personal private passenger automobile insurers file for approval their underwriting rules used to accept or reject new or renewal business or to assign risks to the standard or non-standard rate levels. Approval of underwriting rules shall serve to confirm that each insurer's business practices are consistent with law regarding the acceptance of new business, the renewal of current business and the assignment of a risk to an insurer's standard or non-standard rate level.

(b) This subchapter applies to all insurers that are licensed and authorized to transact personal private passenger automobile insurance in the voluntary market. It applies to affiliated companies which insure risks through different individual insurance companies.

(c) No private passenger automobile insurer shall make any filing pursuant to this subchapter after March 1, 1998.

Amended by R.1998 d.129, effective March 2, 1998.
See: 29 N.J.R. 5253(a), 30 N.J.R. 839(a).
Added a new (c).

11:3-35.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“Affiliated companies” means two or more individual insurance companies that are authorized to transact private passenger automobile insurance business in New Jersey and that are under both common ownership and common management.

“Automobile insurance eligibility points” means points accrued as provided in accordance with the schedule set forth in N.J.A.C. 11:3-34.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance of the State of New Jersey.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance.

“Individual insurance company” means an insurance company licensed and authorized to transact private passenger automobile insurance business in New Jersey, regardless of whether it is one of a group of affiliated companies.

“Insurer” includes a group of affiliated companies.

“Renew” means to issue and deliver at the end of the policy period a policy superseding a policy previously issued and delivered, or to issue and deliver a certificate or notice extending the term of a policy beyond its policy period or term, by the same individual insurance company, or by another of a group of affiliated companies pursuant to a standard/non-standard rating plan filed and approved in accordance with N.J.A.C. 11:3-19.

Amended by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).

11:3-35.3 General requirements and filing format

(a) All insurers which write personal private passenger automobile insurance in New Jersey shall file for approval their underwriting rules used to accept or reject new business, to renew or nonrenew current business and to assign business to a tier in a tier rating plan in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:29A-46.1 and 46.2 and this subchapter. No insurer shall use or implement any underwriting rule not filed and approved as set forth herein.

(b) Underwriting rules shall be submitted on 8½ by 11 inch paper using one side of the page. Each page shall be consecutively numbered. The first page shall show the filer’s company name, the filer’s identifying number for this filing, National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) company number(s), and NAIC group number. The underwriting rules filing shall clearly identify the rate level to which the underwriting rules will be applied and whether the underwriting rules apply to new business, renewal business or both. All tables shall be clearly labeled.

(c) Underwriting rules shall meet the following standards:

1. No underwriting rule shall be based on the territory in which an insured resides.

2. An underwriting rule shall be based on a reasonable and demonstrable relationship between the risk characteristics of the driver(s) insured and the hazards insured against.

3. An underwriting rule shall be based on specific and verifiable measurements. No underwriting rule shall be based on subjective judgments such as “pride of ownership evident,” “poor attitude,” “unsatisfactory environment to conduct business,” etc.

4. No underwriting rule shall be based on race, color, creed, national origin or ancestry.

5. No underwriting rule shall be based on whether the applicant or insured was previously insured as a non-standard or sub-standard risk, was previously insured by a residual market mechanism, or whether another insurer declined to insure or terminated insurance.

6. No underwriting rule shall be based on whether the insured or a member of the insured’s household purchases or continues to purchase other insurance or services from the insurer or its affiliates, agents or other companies under common management or ownership, except that this provision shall not prohibit a rate discount.

7. No underwriting rule shall be based on the lawful occupation or profession of an insured, except that this provision shall not apply to any insurer which limits all its insureds to one lawful occupation or profession, or to several related lawful occupations or professions.

8. No underwriting rule shall be based on whether the insured has changed employment in the recent past, except that this provision shall not prohibit a rate discount to an insurer’s employees or agents.

9. No underwriting rule shall be based on whether the insured is impaired by physical or mental disabilities except those disabilities that impair the ability to operate an automobile safely.

Amended by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).

In (a), substituted “a tier in a tier rating plan in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:29A-46.1 and 46.2” for “the standard or non-standard rating plan, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:29A-46”.

11:3-35.4 Underwriting rules for eligible persons

(a) All insurers shall file for approval underwriting rules that provide that the insurer will make an offer to renew any of its insureds who is defined as an “eligible person” in N.J.A.C. 11:3-34.

3. Insurers with less than 1,000 automobile inforce exposures as of December 31, 1983 and as of September 30, 1988. Insurers newly authorized to transact private passenger automobile insurance after September 30, 1988 shall be exempt from this subchapter until such time as the insurer has 1,000 or more automobile inforce exposures;

4. Insurers transacting automobile insurance business in New Jersey subject to a plan of orderly withdrawal approved in accordance with N.J.A.C. 11:2-29, but only to the extent provided by the terms of the approved plan of orderly withdrawal;

5. Insurers transacting automobile insurance business in New Jersey subject to an order issued by the Commissioner in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:33B-19 or 20, but only to the extent provided by the terms of the order;

6. Insurers transacting automobile insurance business subject to an order of administrative supervision pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:51A-1 et seq., but only to the extent provided by the terms of such order; or

7. Insurers subject to any limitation on premium volume set forth as a condition of authorization or admission pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:1-10.8(e) and (f) or 11:1-28.10(f) and (g), as applicable, but only to the extent of such limitation set forth in the authorization or admission or as modified thereafter.

(c) Insurers that currently insure, or have insured since December 31, 1983, only certain types of automobiles (for example, motor homes, recreational vehicles or antique automobiles) shall comply with the requirements of (a) above, but only for the particular types of automobiles currently being insured.

(d) Insurers that currently provide, or have provided since December 31, 1983, only limited coverage (for example, physical damage coverage) shall comply with the requirements of (a) above, but only for the limited coverages being written.

(e) Insurers that are required to insure eligible persons, but that do not have a current personal lines automobile insurance rating system on file with the Department, shall file such a system with the Department in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:29A-1 et seq. within 90 days of the effective date of this rule.

(f) Insurers identified within the provisions of (b), (c) or (d) above, shall comply with the following:

1. Such insurers shall file with the Department no later than 60 days from the date of adoption of this rule a certified statement containing the following information:

i. The insurer's name, including the NAIC number and NAIC group number;

ii. A statement that the insurer is not required to comply fully with N.J.S.A. 17:33B-15;

iii. The factual basis upon which the insurer relied to determine that it is not required to comply fully with N.J.S.A. 17:33B-15;

iv. The particular provision of this rule under which the insurer is included; and

v. A certification by an officer of the insurer that the statement is complete, correct and accurate to the best of the officer's information, knowledge and belief, based upon the officer's personal review of all relevant records.

2. The certified statement shall be sent to the Department at the following address:

Division of Licensing, Enforcement and Consumer Protection
 New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance
 20 West State Street
 PO Box 328
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0328

Amended by R.1995 d.604, effective November 20, 1995.
 See: 27 N.J.R. 2854(a), 27 N.J.R. 4717(c).
 Administrative Correction.
 See: 27 N.J.R. 4894(a).
 Amended by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.
 See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).

11:3-40.4 Penalties

(a) The Commissioner may suspend, revoke or otherwise terminate the certificate of authority to transact automobile business in this State of any insurer failing to comply with the provisions of this subchapter requiring that the insurer provide automobile insurance in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:33B-15.

(b) In addition to or in lieu of the penalty set forth in (a) above, the Commissioner may impose a fine as provided in N.J.S.A. 17:33B-21 for any violation of the provisions of this subchapter.

(c) The Department shall follow the procedures set forth at N.J.A.C. 11:17D-2.1 in imposing the penalties set forth at (a) or (b) above.

SUBCHAPTER 41. (RESERVED)

SUBCHAPTER 42. (RESERVED)

SUBCHAPTER 43. (RESERVED)

SUBCHAPTER 44. SPECIAL RULES FOR
EFFECTING COVERAGE FOR PRIVATE
PASSENGER AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE**11:3-44.1 Purpose and scope**

(a) This subchapter implements the provisions of N.J.S.A. 17:33B-15 and 18 which prohibit insurers, both individually and through their agents, from attempting to channel away eligible persons, with the effect of avoiding an insurer's obligation to provide private passenger automobile insurance coverage to eligible persons.

(b) This subchapter applies to all persons that are licensed and authorized to transact the business of personal private passenger automobile insurance in this State and all producers.

11:3-44.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Affiliate" means an insurer that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls or is controlled by, or is under common ownership and management with, another insurer.

"Business days" means all days other than weekends and official New Jersey State and Federal holidays.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance.

"Completed written application" means a signed application that contains the minimum information necessary as set forth at N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.3(a) to determine whether the applicant is an eligible person, to rate and underwrite the policy, is accompanied by a completed coverage selection form as provided at N.J.A.C. 11:3-15.6 and, if requested, a copy of the applicant's driver's license, a copy of the motor vehicle registration of the principal vehicle to be insured, one additional proof of New Jersey residency and an acknowledgment of requirement for insurance inspection form where physical damage is requested.

"Days" means calendar days.

"Eligible person" means a person as defined at N.J.S.A. 17:33B-13 and N.J.A.C. 11:3-34.4.

"Insurer" means a person authorized to transact the business of personal private passenger automobile insurance in this State including insurers organized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:50-1 et seq.

"Personal private passenger automobile insurance" means a policy of automobile insurance principally used to provide primary insurance on private passenger automobiles which are owned individually, or jointly by individuals who are residents of the same household, and used for personal, family, or household needs.

"Transmit" means to mail or deliver by any means including, but not limited to, third class mail, certified mail, overnight delivery or express delivery, hand delivery and any transmission by wire, including, but not limited to, facsimile transmission or computer modem.

Amended by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).
Deleted "Market Transition Facility".

11:3-44.3 Duty to provide coverage upon receipt of a completed written application

(a) The minimum information necessary to determine whether an applicant is an eligible person and to rate and underwrite the policy is as follows:

1. The desired effective date of policy;
2. Personal information, including the name, address, home telephone number, date of birth, sex and marital status of the applicant and principal driver of each automobile to be insured under the policy;
3. The number of vehicles to be insured and a description of each such vehicle including:
 - i. The model year;
 - ii. The cost of the vehicle, if new;
 - iii. The trade name;
 - iv. The model;
 - v. The body type;
 - vi. The vehicle identification number;
 - vii. An approximate odometer reading if the insurer rates by mileage;
 - viii. The estimated annual mileage if the insurer rates by mileage;
 - ix. The intended use of vehicle (for pleasure, for or to work, to school or to public transportation);
4. Where the vehicle is garaged, if different from residence;
5. The month and year licensed for all drivers licensed less than three years;

6. Information regarding each resident licensed driver who is to be a named insurer under the policy, or who is the principal driver of a vehicle insured under the policy, or who is not otherwise a named insured under a separate policy of automobile insurance including:

- i. The percentage use of each licensed driver;
 - ii. The motor vehicle record for the previous three years including:
 - (1) Convictions for traffic violations that result in the assessment of insurance eligibility points pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:3-34.5;
 - (2) Motor vehicle accidents; and
 - (3) Drivers' license and registration suspensions and revocations;
 - iii. An insurer shall not require the applicant to submit a motor vehicle abstract;
 - iv. Automobile insurance claims history if needed to determine placement into a preferred company in a group of insurers;
 - v. Insurance fraud and other violations or crimes enumerated at N.J.S.A. 17:33B-13 or set forth at N.J.A.C. 11:3-34.4(a)1, 2 or 4; and
 - vi. Criminal convictions for offenses in the course of which a motor vehicle was used pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:43-2b(7);
7. The drivers' license number of the applicant;
8. Information relating to types of coverage, limits of liability and driver discounts;
9. A coverage selection form; and
10. No information shall be requested based on whether the insured is impaired by physical or mental disabilities except those disabilities that impair the ability to operate an automobile safely.

(b) An insurer, by itself or through its producers with binding authority, shall provide coverage to an eligible person applicant who submits a completed written application that includes the information in (a) above.

1. Insurers shall have five business days from the date of receipt of a completed written application to either provide or decline insurance, or if requested to notify the applicant whether coverage will be provided or denied. An insurer shall obtain and retain documentation of the date of receipt of such application. When an application is transmitted to an insurer by first class mail, there is a rebuttable presumption that the application was received by the insurer two calendar days after mailing when the destination is in New Jersey or within a 300 mile radius of the place of mailing, or three calendar days when the destination is outside a 300 mile radius of the place of mailing, as evidenced by a proof of mailing or postmark.

2. Any document which an insurer requires to be submitted in connection with an application or renewal shall be prominently requested in the application or renewal form.

3. If physical damage coverages are requested by eligible person applicants, insurers shall bind liability coverages in accordance with these rules and may bind physical damage coverages subject to compliance with N.J.A.C. 11:3-36.

(c) If upon receipt of an application from a producer without immediate binding authority or directly from an applicant, an insurer finds that the application is incomplete and the insurer is unable to determine whether the applicant is an eligible person, the insurer shall, within five business days of the date the application was received by it, issue a notice which:

1. Clearly and specifically identifies the deficiencies;
2. Advises the applicant that if the deficiencies are cured within 15 days and the applicant is determined to be an eligible person, coverage shall be provided either immediately or as of the originally requested effective date if later; and
3. Advises the applicant that if the deficiencies are not cured within 15 days, the application shall be deemed to have been declined.

(d) Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to require an insurer to provide coverage prior to receipt by either the insurer or its producer of the premium deposit required based upon the premium quoted by the insurer or its producer.

Amended by R.1994 d.598, effective December 5, 1994.
See: 26 N.J.R. 3591(a), 26 N.J.R. 4777(a).

11:3-44.4 New applicants previously insured in another state by the insurer or an affiliate

(a) An insurer shall immediately provide coverage, without lapse, to any eligible person applicant that:

1. Has moved to New Jersey from another state;
2. Submits a completed written application within 60 days of establishing residency in New Jersey; and
3. Applies to either the same insurer under which the applicant is currently insured or an affiliate of that insurer.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.5 by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.4, Immediate binding authority for insurers with MTF rates, repealed.

11:3-44.5 Underwriting rules

These new rules shall supersede any existing, conflicting underwriting rules previously filed and approved by the Department pursuant to N.J.A.C. 11:3-35.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.6 by R.2001 d. 44, effective February 5, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.5, New applicants previously insured in another state by the insurer or an affiliate, recodified to N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.4.

11:3-44.6 Penalties

Any insurer that violates any provision of this subchapter shall be subject to the penalties provided by law, including but not limited to the suspension, revocation or termination of a certificate of authority and a civil penalty in an amount of up to \$2,000 for the first violation and up to \$5,000 for the second and each subsequent violation in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:33B-15 and 17:33B-21.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.7 by R.2001 d.44, effective February 5, 2001.

See: 32 N.J.R. 3891(a), 33 N.J.R. 573(a).

Former N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.6, Underwriting rules, recodified to N.J.A.C. 11:3-44.5.

SUBCHAPTER 45. INSURERS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE SURVEY INFORMATION

11:3-45.1 Purpose and scope

(a) The purpose of the subchapter is to implement N.J.S.A. 39:6A-23.1 by setting forth those procedures by which insurers shall annually submit to the Department current premium information.

(b) This subchapter shall apply to all auto insurers that have on file with the Department a current personal lines rating system for automobile insurance and which are not exempted from the obligation to insure, renew, or provide automobile insurance to eligible persons. Exempted insurers are listed in N.J.A.C. 11:3-40.3(b), (c) and (d).

11:3-45.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Automobile insurance” means insurance for private passenger automobile including one or more of the following coverages: bodily injury liability and property damage liability, comprehensive and collision coverages, uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage, personal injury protection, additional personal injury protection coverage and any other automobile insurance required by law.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance.

“Department” means the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance.

“Auto insurer” means an entity authorized or admitted to write automobile insurance in New Jersey but does not include either any residual market mechanism implemented pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:29D-1 et seq. or any other statute, or insurers which are exempted from the requirement to provide automobile insurance coverage to eligible persons in accordance with N.J.A.C. 11:3-40.3(b), (c) and (d).

“Survey information” means the data annually supplied by the Commissioner to the auto insurers from which they will then issue survey quotations. This information includes, but is not limited to, the prior driving experience of the insured, the nature and extent of coverages, the deductible, the composition of household, information regarding the proposed vehicle, and other pertinent information.

Administrative change.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1317(a).

11:3-45.3 Annual premium survey filing

(a) Every auto insurer shall prepare and file on or before September 15 of each calendar year, with the Department, at the address set forth in (d) below, an annual premium survey reflecting premiums charged for specific automobile insurance coverage.

(b) The filing shall reflect the annual premiums by coverage as of October 1 of that calendar year and shall be predicated on survey information provided by the Commissioner to auto insurers by Bulletin on or before September 1 of each calendar year.

(c) Auto insurers shall prepare and file the information required by this subchapter in accordance with the forms contained in the Appendix and incorporated herein by reference.

(d) Completed annual premium survey forms shall be submitted to:

New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance
Office of Property/Casualty
20 West State Street
PO Box 325
Trenton, NJ 08625-0325
Attn: Automobile Premium Comparison Survey

Administrative change.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1317(a).