



## **CERTAIN CONVICTIONS CREATE SURCHARGE BY DPS** **As of Sept. 1, 2003**

**Certain offenses carry an automatic surcharge for three years. These include driving without insurance, driving while license suspended, driving without a license and DWI-related offenses.**

For example: the fee for a first-time "Fail to Maintain Insurance" offender is \$250.00 per year for three years.

Anyone who accumulates six points in any given three-year period will be required to pay \$100. The fee will be required every year that the driver's three-year history reflects a minimum of six points. Every additional point after that will result in an additional \$25 charge.

### **Surcharges due every year for three years include convictions for:**

- **Failure to maintain insurance and driving while license invalid: \$250 per year**
- **Driving without a valid license: \$100 per year**
- **DWI-related offense:  
\$1000 per year for first offense  
\$2,000 per year if the court reports an alcohol concentration of .16 or more  
\$1,500 per year for a second conviction within the three-year period**

## **All charges are cumulative**

Drivers who do not receive the notice because DPS has an incorrect address are still responsible for the fees.

**Anyone who accumulates six points in any given three-year period will be required to pay \$100. The fee will be required every year that the driver's three-year history reflects a minimum of six points. Every additional point after that will result in an additional \$25 charge.**

**For other moving violation convictions, DPS will assign points to a person's license as follows:**

- Two points for a moving violation conviction in Texas or that of another state.
- Three points for a moving violation conviction in Texas or another state that resulted in a vehicle crash.

**Points will not be assigned for speeding less than 10 percent over the posted limit or seat belt convictions. A child not in safety seat will be added to the point system.**

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Nearly 200,000 Texas drivers face possible driver license revocations unless they pay surcharges. The Driver Responsibility Program, which assesses fees for a variety of driving-related offenses, was approved by the Legislature in 2003. It took effect September 2003, but the surcharges could not be collected until the proper software was developed and a vendor selected. The revenue generated by the program goes to trauma centers, emergency medical services and the Texas Mobility Fund.

Letters detailing the amount owed are now being mailed at the rate of about 5,000 a day to the most recent addresses on file with DPS. Drivers have 30 days after the notices are sent to either make payment or payment arrangements. If they do not, their driving privileges will be revoked, and they are not eligible for an occupational license. **If caught driving with a revoked license, offenders face arrest for driving while license invalid, a class B misdemeanor.**