

Why Do I Need an Umbrella Policy?

Umbrella liability insurance “sits over” your primary insurance, providing a higher level of coverage above your automobile, homeowner’s, boat, and recreational vehicle policies. Umbrella policies offer can give you higher limits, broader coverage, and worldwide liability coverage.

Your family and your daily activities result in lawsuit exposures every day, and unfortunately the frequency and cost of lawsuits have increased dramatically over the last ten years. Some reasons to consider the purchase of an umbrella policy include:

- *You serve on a board of directors or participate in volunteer activities*
- *You have teenaged drivers or drive a carpool*
- *You own rental property or vacation property*
- *You have jet-skis, a golf cart, or other recreational vehicles*
- *You have a swimming pool in your backyard*
- *You are financially responsible for your children*
- *You have a small business in your home and see clients on occasion*

Consider these real-life examples where lawsuits were filed and judgments awarded:

- **A student hated math class and her teacher. She made negative comments about the teacher online. The teacher found out, sued the parents, and was awarded \$750,000**
- **A homeowner was burning a candle in her bathroom. As her niece washed her hands, her sleeve passed over the candle and ignited. She suffered third degree burns. The homeowner was held liable and had to pay out \$917,000**
- **A talented softball player filed a \$700,000 lawsuit against her former coach, alleging the coach’s “incorrect” teaching style ruined her chances for an athletic scholarship**
- **A one car accident occurred when a 17 year old driver ran off the road with 3 friends in the car. Damages awarded were over \$ 1,500,000**

Think about the value of your assets. If your home, automobiles, investments, and potential future earnings are worth \$400,000 and your automobile liability insurance limit is only \$250,000, then you are left with \$150,000 of uninsured assets.

Contact our Personal Lines department to see how easy it is put an umbrella policy in place. One million dollars of liability coverage is much more affordable than you may think, and it’s a small price to pay for peace of mind.



It's Our Business to Protect You!

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