

Top agent questions

Lawyers Professional Liability

Q: Does Zurich have the American Bar Association's endorsement?

A: The American Bar Association does not endorse any lawyers professional liability carriers.

Q: What is an "of counsel" attorney?

A: The term "of counsel" refers to attorneys who are not partners, associates, independent contractors or employees, but they have a close continuous and regular relationship with the firm working on a case-by-case basis for the firm. These attorneys are identified as "of counsel" on the firm's application. Of counsel attorneys are covered only for errors and omissions resulting from rendering, or failing to render, legal services on behalf of the insured firm.

Q: What is the typical turnaround time for a quote?

A: Our program administrators strive to turn quotes around within 48 hours of receipt of a fully completed application.

Q: Can Zurich write law firms that have multiple offices in multiple states?

A: Yes, Zurich's Lawyers Professional Liability program will consider law firms that have offices in multiple states, subject to underwriting considerations.

Q: Will you quote from another carrier's application?

A: Zurich's Program Administrators can quote from another carrier's new business application, subject to a warranty statement, as long as the competitor's application is similar to Zurich's application and contains the information necessary to underwrite the business.

Q: Is First Dollar Defense available?

A: First Dollar Defense, also referred to as "loss only deductible," is available through Zurich for qualifying firms.

Q: Are Punitive Damages covered?

A: Punitive damages awarded against the Insured are typically not insurable in most states and are not covered under this program. It is also not standard practice to cover punitive damages in the industry, except where it is required by law.

Q: What are the areas of practice that this program will not cover?

A: Law firms that perform patent work, tax shelter work or investment counseling/money management are not eligible for a Lawyers Professional Liability Policy through Zurich.

Q: What are prior acts factor/step rate factor, and why are they rated this way?

A: Prior acts factor/step rate factor is commonly used by insurance carriers issuing Lawyers Professional Liability policies and refers to one of the components in a rating system which ultimately determines the premium for full time Lawyers policy. This factor increases every year until maturation because with a Claims Made and Reported Policy, the risk of a Claim being reported increases with every passing year.

Q: How does Zurich handle mid-term hires and deletions?

A: Mid-term hires and deletions only affect the premium in that Policy Period if they take place within the first thirty (30) days after the effective date of the Policy Period. If an attorney is added to the Policy more than thirty (30) days after the effective date, Zurich will not charge the firm any additional premium for that policy period, unless the attorney being added to the Policy causes a "material change," as defined by the Policy. If an attorney is deleted from the Policy more than (30) days after the effective date, no premium will be returned.

Q: How long has Zurich offered Lawyers Professional Liability insurance?

A: Zurich has offered Lawyers Professional Liability insurance for almost 20 years.

Visit www.zprogramsmatch.com to learn more about Zurich's program offerings and to request contact for one of the many programs offered through ZProgramsMatch.

Zurich

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