1
Required coverage

2
Map risks

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Set limits

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Research providers

5
Compare quotes

6
Review policy

7
Review changes

Engineering Business Insurance Checklist

moneygeek
FIND YOUR FINANCIAL HAPPY PLACE

1. Identify the Coverage You're Required to Carry

Record legal and contract requirements before you start shopping.

Business snapshot

Business name

State(s) where you work / hold a license

Employees

Primary engineering services

Business-owned vehicle?

PE / firm license required?

Requirement checks

- I checked stateengineering and firm licensing rules.
- I checked workers' comp requirements for my employee setup.
- I confirmed commercial auto requirements for business-owned vehicles.
- I reviewed client contracts for required policies and minimum limits.

Client and contract requirements

Requirement	Required?	Limit / wording	Who requires it?
Professional liability			
General liability			
Workers' comp proof			
Commercial auto			
Certificate of insurance (COI)			
Additional insured endorsement			
Other			

STARTING POINT

Treat legal and contract requirements as your baseline. Page 2 helps you identify exposures those requirements may leave uncovered.

2. Map Your Remaining Risks to Coverage

Focus on losses your required coverage may not address. Tie each extra policy to something your engineering firm actually does.

How does your engineering firm operate?

- I carry laptops or technical gear between locations.
- I store client files or project data electronically.
- I maintain a dedicated office with business equipment .
- I use specialized testing or measurement equipment.
- I regularly work away from my main office.
- Other: ______________________________

Match the exposure to coverage

What could happen?	Coverage to investigate	Applies to me?	Question to ask
Portable equipment is stolen or damaged away from your office	Tools and equipment		
Client or project data is compromised	Cyber insurance		
Office equipment is damaged by fire, water or theft	Commercial property		
Other loss not addressed by required coverage			

Coverage questions I still need answered:

____

____

RISK CHECK
Add coverage because a real loss could affect your business, not because another engineering firm carries it.

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3. Set Coverage Limits for the Work You Take On

Use contract minimums as a starting point, then size your limits around the losses your projects could realistically create.

How much could one project put at risk?

Largestprojectvalue I normallytakeon ______________________

Highest professional liability limit a client requires ______________________

Largest loss I could reasonably absorb myself ______________________

Most expensive portable equipment I regularly use ______________________

Coverage limits

Coverage	Contract / legal minimum	Current / quoted limit	Limit I plan to buy	Why this amount fits
Professional liability				
General liability				
Tools and equipment				
Cyber insurance				
Commercial auto				
Commercial property				

Equipment replacement check

Equipment	Qty.	Replacement cost each	Total value
Engineering workstation / laptop			
Portable testing or measurement gear			
Other portable equipment			
Office equipment			

Estimated total replacement value: ______________________

LIMIT CHECK
Do not choose limits only from the premium. Think about what a serious design error or property loss could cost your firm.

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4. Research Providers Before You Quote

Confirm the insurer will write your engineering work, then compare how the policy and service model fit your preferences.

Work I need the insurer to confirm

- Structural engineering
- Civil or geotechnical work
- Design-build or EPC involvement
- Public infrastructure projects
- Work across multiple states
- Other: ____________________

IF ANY BOX APPLIES
Ask whether the insurer writes that discipline or project type, and whether higher limits or specialist underwriting are available.

What matters most to me

Priority	What "good" looks like for my firm
___	Fast COI access
___	Easy policy changes
___	Mostly self-service management
___	Access to an agent when I need help
___	Direct, clear claims support
___	Engineering-specific professional liability form
___	Ability to keep several policies with one insurer

Providers worth quoting

Provider	Why I am considering it	What I still need confirmed

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5. Compare Quotes on the Same Terms

Keep your quote in puts consistent so a lower premium isn't simply buying less protection.

Use consistent business details

Annual revenue ______________________

Employee count ______________________

Payroll ______________________

Primary engineering services ______________________

Largest project value ______________________

Deductible requested ______________________

Coverage setup I want quoted

- Professional liability
- General liability
- Tools and equipment
- Cyber insurance
- Workers' compensation
- Commercial auto
- Commercial property
- Other: ________________

Quote comparison

Comparison point	Quote A	Quote B	Quote C
Provider			
Monthly / annual premium			
Professional liability limit			
General liability limit			
Deductible			
Tools and equipment limit			
Required endorsements included?			
All requested coverage included?			
Anything missing?			

PRICE CHECK
If a quote leaves out coverage or uses different limits, get it corrected before comparing premiums.

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6 **Review policy**

7 Review changes

6. Review the Policy Before You Buy

Check the wording and exclusions before coverage starts. Do not rely on the policy name alone.

Final policy check

- My business name and engineering operations are listed correctly.
- Required additional insured wording is included.
- My equipment values are accurate.
- Coverage starts before my next project.
- The limits match the quote I approved.
- I know who to contact if I have a claim.

Exclusions and wording to check

Question	What the policy says	Resolved?
How does the policy define covered professional services?		
What retroactive date applies to professional liability?		
Are any engineering disciplines or project types excluded?		
Does equipment coverage follow gear away from the office?		
Is subcontracted professional work covered or restricted?		
Are there exclusions that conflict with work I regularly perform?		

BEFORE YOU BUY
If you do not understand an exclusion, ask the insurer to explain it using a real engineering project you perform.

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7. Reassess Coverage as Your Business Changes

Review coverage when the way you work changes, whether you grow, scale back or simply change the work you take on.

Changes that should trigger a review

- I hiredan employeeorreturnedtosolowork.
- I shifted toward or away from field-based work.
- I moved into a different engineering specialty.
- I started working in another state or locality.
- My client or project mix changed substantially.
- I added or sold a business vehicle.
- My equipment values changed substantially.
- I stopped offering a service.

What changed since my last review?

Change	Date	Coverage affected	What I need to check

Current provider ____________________

Renewal date ____________________

Next review date ____________________

Why my current setup still fits:

____

____

REVIEW BOTH WAYS

A change can mean you need more coverage, but it can also mean you are paying for protection that no longer fits your engineering firm.