



THE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Insurance

What kind of insurance do we need?

Insurance is a valuable tool to protect the church against lawsuits and claims. All Foursquare churches are required to maintain insurance coverage to protect the pastor, church council, attendees and church property.

Foursquare has a dedicated insurance department responsible to ensure that Foursquare ministers and assets are protected with adequate coverage. All Foursquare churches are required to maintain the following types of insurance coverage:

- Activities - general liability insurance which covers participants in church events in case of accident or injury.
- Property/contents - insures premises, structures and contents against damage, fire, flood and/or theft.
- Workers comp - coverage for injuries sustained by employees while fulfilling normal ministry duties.
- Directors and officers - coverage for liability associated with employment practices.
- Sexual misconduct - insures the church against liability associated with misconduct by a team member.

The [Foursquare insurance department website](#) is an excellent resource if you have any questions about coverages or the process to file a claim.

Most insurance companies require either quarterly or annual audit forms be completed to accurately calculate the appropriate coverage for worker's compensation insurance. Failing to file the forms could result in additional premiums being assessed.

Church exemption from unemployment insurance

Churches are exempt from the federal unemployment program per the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) . In most states, churches are also automatically exempt from state unemployment programs (SUTA) as religious organizations and in some states, churches can opt into the unemployment program by filing a form. Please contact your district office to find out if the church plant employees are exempt from state unemployment insurance.

Important note: When churches are exempted from unemployment programs, paid staff members do not pay into the state or federal unemployment systems and therefore will not have any benefits available from their church service. It is important to notify church

employees of this status when they are hired so that they are fully aware of how their unemployment benefits will be impacted.