



2026 FLORIDA CONTRACTOR INSURANCE REPORT

Florida Contractor Insurance Market Outlook 2026

A practical report for Florida general contractors, trade contractors, and subcontractor-heavy businesses reviewing workers comp audits, GL certificates, commercial auto, tools, bonds, and renewal documents.

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WRITTEN & REVIEWED BY FL 2-20 AGENT

OFFICIAL SOURCES LINKED

6.9%

Florida OIR-approved 2026 workers comp rate decrease for new and renewal policies

1+ employee

Florida construction employers can hit workers comp requirements quickly

COIs matter

Subcontractor certificates, exemptions, and contracts can change the renewal story



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Florida Contractor Insurance Market Outlook 2026: the short version

- ✓ Workers comp has verified 2026 rate relief in Florida, but contractor audit risk still lives in payroll, class codes, exemptions, COIs, and subcontractor records.
- ✓ Florida construction employers can hit workers comp requirements quickly, and active state-licensed CILB construction licensees must maintain workers comp coverage or an exemption.
- ✓ State-license minimums are not the same as project contract requirements, umbrella requirements, or carrier appetite for the actual work.
- ✓ The best contractor submission is a clean file: policies, loss runs, payroll, subs, vehicles, drivers, tools, equipment, contracts, and certificate wording before renewal pressure builds.

Plain-English takeaway

This PDF is a companion to the full online report. Use it as a renewal conversation starter, then review actual policy forms, endorsements, contracts, and underwriting documents before making coverage decisions.

What to do next

If one of these issues affects your business, send the renewal, certificate requirements, contract language, or policy pages early. A cleaner file gives our office more time to compare the right markets.

Five contractor insurance issues to review before renewal or bid deadlines

Workers comp rate relief does not erase audit risk

Treat the 2026 rate cut as helpful context, not a promise that a contractor policy will be cheaper after payroll, subs, and job mix are audited.

Construction employers hit the workers comp threshold quickly

Helpers, crews, owners, and subs all affect whether the file supports how labor is actually used.

DBPR/CILB minimums are only the starting line

A license minimum can keep a contractor compliant and still be too low for a project owner, municipality, GC, lender, or umbrella carrier.

Commercial auto and tools expose the operation

Work trucks, trailers, employee drivers, equipment transport, and inland marine schedules need their own review.

Contract language decides whether the stack works

Additional insured, waiver, primary/noncontributory, completed operations, and umbrella requests need policy review before the job starts.

Need a second set of eyes?

Send the current policy, renewal offer, or requirements sheet before timing gets tight.

[Check Contractor Pricing](#)

Contractor coverage review map

General liability	Premises, ongoing operations, completed operations, subcontractor controls, additional insured wording, project type, and job size.
Workers compensation	Construction threshold, payroll by class code, officer exemptions, subcontractor COIs, exemption certificates, uninsured labor, and audit records.
Commercial auto	Trucks, trailers, driver lists, MVRs, radius, garaging, hired/non-owned auto, and contract-required limits.
Tools and equipment	Scheduled equipment, rented or borrowed equipment, theft exposure, jobsite storage, transit, and deductibles.
Commercial umbrella	Contract limits, underlying GL and auto limits, employer's liability, completed operations, and larger-job requirements.
Surety bonds	License bonds, bid bonds, performance bonds, payment bonds, credit, financials, job size, backlog, and obligee wording.

CHECKLIST

Contractor renewal file checklist



Current policies and renewal offers



Loss runs and claim notes if available



Payroll by class code, employee status, and owner/officer status



Subcontractor COIs and exemption certificates



Vehicle schedule, driver list, MVRs, garaging, and radius



Tools, equipment, rented equipment, and trailers



Sample contracts, certificate wording, waiver requests, and additional insured requirements



Bond forms, obligee wording, job size, backlog, and bid deadlines

COMMON QUESTIONS

Are Florida contractor insurance rates going down in 2026?

Not across every line. Workers comp has a verified statewide decrease, but final cost still depends on payroll, classes, losses, subs, GL exposures, drivers, tools, and carrier appetite.

Is a certificate of insurance enough for a contractor contract?

No. A certificate is evidence of insurance, but it does not automatically change policy language or endorsements.

Sources used for this report

This report uses official public sources where factual/regulatory claims are made. The full HTML version includes additional context, internal links, and report navigation.

- 1. Florida DFS workers compensation coverage requirements**
<https://www.myfloridacfo.com/division/wc/employer/coverage-requirements>
- 2. Florida DFS workers compensation exemptions**
<https://www.myfloridacfo.com/division/wc/employer/exemptions>
- 3. Florida Statute 440.05 election of exemption**
https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0400-0499/0440/Sections/0440.05.html
- 4. Florida Administrative Code Chapter 69L-6 workers compensation compliance**
<https://flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=69L-6>
- 5. Florida DBPR Construction Industry Licensing Board FAQs**
<https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/construction-industry/faqs/>
- 6. Florida OIR 2026 workers compensation rate decrease order**
<https://floir.gov/home/2025/11/17/commissioner-mike-yaworsky-approves-6.9--rate-decrease-for-florida-workers--compensation-policies--marking-9th-consecutive-year-of-decreases>
- 7. Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles insurance requirements**
<https://www.flhsmv.gov/insurance/>

Read the full online report

<https://www.greeneinsurance.com/reports/florida-contractor-insurance-market-outlook-2026>
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