

If you own a restaurant, then you have at least a passing understanding of your restaurant insurance policy. And hopefully you have purchased general liability protection as a part of your package policy. What you may not understand fully, is how the medical payments section of your policy can help you keep loss costs lower, which in turn can save you time and money on your restaurant insurance policies in the future. Here's how it works.

Your general liability section of your restaurant insurance policy should have two components, one called medical payments coverage – which we refer to as med pay, and a second component which is called liability coverage. The liability coverage is designed to protect you against claims filed against your business for which you are legally liable. This could run the gamut from broken teeth to food poisoning to slip and fall claims. And I probably don't have to tell you that there are plenty of scam artists out there who visit restaurants just to set them up to demand payment for some kind of questionable claim. But your med pay coverage on your policy is your first line of defense to keeping scam claims and even legitimate ones from ballooning out of control.

Med pay will pay for the medical bills associated with injury to your patrons while they are on your premises. And here's the best part – it pays without regard to fault. So, while you may not be sure that it is your fault that your client claims he slipped in your rest room, you can initiate a claim using your med pay coverage to cover his medical bills right away. Often by taking quick and decisive action you can mollify the feelings and emotions of an injured patron and keep the claim from escalating out of control. Med pay is the vehicle to help accomplish this goal.

If you don't have med pay on your policy, or if you feel you might want to increase that coverage, call your agent immediately. This coverage is pretty inexpensive and could save you a bundle in time and hassle by keeping a potentially devastating liability claim under control.

At Clinard Insurance Group, in Winston Salem, NC, we specialize in helping restaurants all across North Carolina and South Carolina with their restaurant insurance needs. We have developed specialized insurance programs for different types of restaurants to keep you from buying coverages you don't need and to help you get the ones that are needed for your type of establishment. So we have an insurance program that will fit your needs, whether you are casual dining, fine dining, fast food, bar and grill, or even a caterer. For more help with your restaurant insurance, please visit us online at www.TheRestaurantInsuranceStore.com or call us, toll free, at 877-687-7557.

