DEATH BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO THE SURVIVING FAMILIES
OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO HAVE DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

STATE DEATH BENEFITS
Currently, there is no one time state death benefit.

EDUCATION BENEFITS
Per Alaska Statute 14.43.085. A spouse or dependent child enrolled as a student in good standing in a state supported educational institution in Alaska is entitled to a waiver of undergraduate tuition and fees.

For more information, please visit the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education website at http://acpe.alaska.gov/Contact_Us or call (800) 441-2962

CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS – provides financial assistance of up to $1,500 per semester to surviving children and surviving spouses of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, according to C.O.P.S. criteria, who wish to pursue a course of study beyond high school. Since there is a tuition-free education benefit available in your state, you must first apply for and be denied by the state or the institution to be eligible for the C.O.P.S. scholarship.

How to Apply: https://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org/scholarship

The PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS’ EDUCATION ASSISTANCE (PSOEA) Program provides financial assistance, for the purpose of seeking higher education, to the spouses and eligible children of local police, fire, and emergency public safety officers who have been killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty.

Educational assistance through the PSOEA Program is available after the Public Safety Officers’ Benefit (PSOB) death or disability claim process has been completed and benefits have been awarded.

Visit https://psob.bja.ojp.gov/ for more information and the application or call the PSOB Office toll-free at 1-888-744-6513 to discuss the requirements for receiving PSOEA benefits.

HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS
House Bill 23 provides for payment of certain medical insurance premiums for dependent survivors of state peace officers, law enforcement, correctional officers, parole and

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probation officers, and firefighters. Survivors would be eligible for continued coverage; the legislation allows municipalities to opt-in to the fund. The bill is designed to ensure health insurance coverage for at least 10 years, or until they are eligible for such coverage through other means.

Application must be made to the Commissioner for payment of premiums for survivor dependents within 60 days of the death. For more information visit http://doa.alaska.gov/drb/survivors.html#PERS or contact the Alaska Division of Retirement and Benefits at (800) 821-2251.

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION
In the case of a work related death, the insurer pays $10,000 for funeral expenses and $5,000 to the employee’s surviving spouse and/or children. In addition, weekly benefits are paid to the employee’s dependents in various amounts which in the aggregate equal the deceased employee’s compensation rate for a total disability. Widows, widowers, and children are dependents. Children living in the worker’s household or supported by a deceased worker, regardless of parentage, may also qualify as dependents. Unmarried dependent children receive benefits to age 19 or older while they go to high school or during their first four years of trade school, technical school, or college. If there is no widow, widower, or child, then parents, grandchildren or brothers and sisters if dependent upon the deceased at the time of injury. All questions of dependency are determined as of the time of injury or death.

How to File: The claim must be filed by the employer. For more information contact the Workers’ Compensation Division of the Department of Labor at PO Box 115512, Juneau, AK 99811 Office: (907) 465-2790 www.labor.alaska.gov.

STATE LIFE INSURANCE – RETIREMENT
Contact the Alaska Department of Administration, Retirement and Benefits at (800) 821-2251 or www.labor.alaska.gov to see if you are the beneficiary of an Optional Benefits Life Plan and/or Occupational Death Benefit.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS’ BENEFITS (PSOB) PROGRAM
A unique effort of the U.S. Department of Justice; local, state, tribal, and federal public safety agencies; and national organizations, the Public Safety Officers’ Benefits (PSOB) Program provides death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders, and disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

The claim has two parts (A&B) that require the agency and family to fill out online. Visit psob.gov for additional filing information. If you need assistance filing this claim, contact the National C.O.P.S. office at (573) 346-4911 or cops@nationalcops.org.
FUNERAL BENEFITS

DIGNITY MEMORIAL FUNERAL, CREMATION AND CEMETERY providers created the Public Servants Program for emergency service personnel. This program provides dignified and honorable tributes, at no cost, for career and volunteer law enforcement officers who fall in the line of duty. Visit their website for complete information at https://www.dignitymemorial.com/ and look under Public Servants for details. You may also call 800-343-4464 and speak with a representative.

WILBERT FUNERAL SERVICES, INC. provides complimentary burial vaults and related services for fallen law enforcement officers. For more information visit https://www.wilbert.com/ or call (800) 323-7188.

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION
$10,000 burial benefit. Please see Workers’ Compensation section above.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

PEER SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS INC., (C.O.P.S.), is a national, non-profit organization that works with law enforcement agencies, police organizations, mental health professionals, and local peer-support organizations to provide assistance to surviving families of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. C.O.P.S. provides Hands-On Programs, training for law enforcement, National Police Week registration/accommodations, scholarships, counseling and so much more to surviving families and co-workers.

Contact the C.O.P.S. National Office (800) 784-2611, email cops@nationalcops.org or visit https://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org/local-chapters for information on a chapter in your area. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CST.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT
Spouses, children, or parents may be eligible for Social Security Benefits. To apply for benefits, call (800) 772-1213 to speak to a Social Security representative or visit your local Social Security Office. You cannot report a death or apply for survivors benefits online. Visit https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/survivors/ifyou.html#h6 for more information.

ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION
The APOA State Chapter administers a Fallen Officers Fund as part of active membership benefits. Any active APOA member in good standing who is killed in the line of duty is entitled to a $5,000 line of duty death benefit paid immediately to the beneficiary designated on their membership profile. Retired law enforcement officers do not qualify for the line of duty death benefit.

Some local APOA Chapters provide additional funding for law enforcement families involved in tragic events. We encourage contact with the APOA chapter in your local area for

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specific funding requests. Visit https://www.apoaonline.org/chapters.html, call (907) 277-0515 or email admin@apoaonline.org to find your local chapter.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE
or other labor/fraternal groups may provide a one-time death benefit to family members of a deceased member officer. Contact your local lodge for information.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF ALASKA STATE TROOPERS https://foast.org/

THE POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.
The PBA member’s beneficiary will receive their base salary for one if year they are killed accidentally or intentionally while performing their law enforcement duties (maximum payout: $70,000). The beneficiary will receive $5,000 if it is not an occupational death or if you are a retired or reserve member. Any active PBA member in good standing and dues current will receive this benefit. Education scholarships may also be available.


The ALASKA VIOLENT CRIMES COMPENSATION BOARD
was established to help mitigate financial losses that are the direct result of violent crimes that occur to Alaskans and visitors to Alaska. In addition, the Board helps to foster victim advocacy and services and promotes victim recovery.

For more information visit doa.alaska.gov, call (800) 764-3040, or email http://doa.alaska.gov/vccb/.

The 100 Club: https://the100club.org/

First Responders Children’s Foundation provides financial support to children who have lost a parent in the line of duty as well as families enduring significant financial hardships due to tragic circumstances. They also provide annual education scholarships to children of fallen heroes. For more information, call (646) 822-4236 or visit https://1strcf.org.

OTHER BENEFITS TO ASK YOUR AGENCY ABOUT:
Life insurance?
Private life insurance?
County & Local Jurisdiction Benefits?
Retirement benefits?
Real Estate Tax Relief?