Death benefits available to the surviving families of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty

STATE DEATH BENEFITS

There currently is no one time state death benefit available. See Retirement section below.

EDUCATION BENEFITS

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.

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.

The Iowa Grant Program is a state-supported and administered grant based on financial need for Iowa residents enrolled at approved institutions of postsecondary education in Iowa. Priority is given to children of police officer’s that have been killed in the line of duty. Contact your school’s financial aid department for more information.

KIDS CHANCE OF MINNESOTA/IOWA - Scholarships are available to qualifying students whose parents have been disabled or fatally injured while working for Minnesota or Iowa employers. Each scholarship recipient is eligible for up to $10,000 per year and can receive scholarships annually through graduation from a two-year or four-year college, university or vocational school.

Scholarships are provided through the SPF Foundation. Call (952) 838-2009 or visit https://www.sfmfoundation.com/apply/ for more information or to apply.
WORKERS’ COMPENSATION

Death benefits are payable to the dependents of the employee. A benefit of 80% of worker’s spendable earnings are first payable to the surviving spouse for life or until remarriage. Dependent children are entitled to the benefits until they reach age 18, or age 25 if they are actually dependent. Others may qualify, if there is a showing of actual dependency. Upon remarriage, if there are no dependent children, the surviving spouse is entitled to a two-year lump sum settlement.

For more information contact Iowa Workforce Development at (800) 645-4583 https://www.iowaworkcomp.gov/

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 https://psob.bja.ojp.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

STATE LIFE INSURANCE & RETIREMENT

Check with your agency to see if you are eligible for State Life Insurance or death benefits from a Retirement system. You can also visit:

Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (MFPRSI): http://www.mfprsi.org/

HEALTH BENEFITS

The Public Safety Survivor Benefits Fund helps families of Iowa Peace Officers that have lost their lives in the line of duty pay for accident or medical insurance coverage. Contact the Iowa Department of Public Safety at (515) 725-6185 or visit https://dps.iowa.gov/divisions/commissioners-office

FUNERAL BENEFITS

Workers’ Compensation Burial expenses not to exceed twelve times the statewide average weekly wage in effect at the time of death are paid in addition to the weekly death benefits. See Workers’ Compensation section above.
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 800-344-6489 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 (888) WILBERT.

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 for more information.

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.

Iowa Crime Victims Compensation Program pays for crime-related expenses such as medical care, counseling, lost wages, and funeral expenses (when costs are not covered by insurance or other sources). The program can also pay for crime-scene clean-up, replacement of clothing held as evidence, replacement of security items, child or dependent care, housing/shelter expenses, relocation expenses and travel.

Call (800) 373-5044 or visit https://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/for-crime-victims/crime-victim-compensation-program for more information or to apply.

IOWA STATE POLICE ASSOCIATION
http://www.ispaonline.com/en/officer_assistance_program/

CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS (C.O.P.S.) // (573) 346-4911 // copsn@nationalcops.org
CONCERNSOFPOLICESURVIVORS.ORG
This information is compiled by National C.O.P.S.

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IOWA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  www.iowapeaceofficers.org

IOWA STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION  http://www.iowatroopers.com/

IOWA STATE SHERIFF'S & DEPUTIES ASSOCIATION  https://www.issda.org/

The 100 Club  https://the100club.org/

SOUTHERN STATES POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC  www.sspba.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:
City life insurance?
Private life insurance?
County & Local Jurisdiction Benefits?
Retirement Benefits?
Real estate tax relief?