STATE DEATH BENEFITS

Currently, there is no one time state death benefit available.

EDUCATION BENEFITS

Every Kansas educational institution shall provide for enrollment without charge of tuition or fees for any dependent or spouse of a public safety officer who died as the result of injury sustained while performing duties as a public safety officer so long as such dependent or spouse is eligible. Any such dependent or spouse shall be eligible for enrollment at a Kansas educational institution without charge of tuition or fees for not to exceed 10 semesters of undergraduate instruction, or the equivalent thereof, at all such institutions. Contact your education facility financial aid department for more information.

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.

Kids’ Chance of Kansas is a non-profit organization that provides scholarships for children of workers that have been killed or seriously injured in a compensable work-related accident or occupational disease. You must demonstrate a substantial need.

For more information or to apply call 913.645.7466, email info@kidschanceks.net or visit https://www.kidschanceks.net/#
WORKERS’ COMPENSATION

The Kansas workers compensation law requires employers or their insurance carriers to pay weekly benefits to surviving dependents of employees whose death results from a work related accident. Death benefits are equal to 0.6667 of the deceased worker's gross average weekly wage, but cannot exceed the maximum weekly benefit applicable on the date of death. The minimum weekly payment is paid at 50 percent of the state's average weekly wage at the time of the accident. Generally, benefits are payable to a maximum of $300,000 depending on the continued eligibility of the surviving spouse and dependent children; $60,000 of this amount is payable immediately in a lump sum. All medical and hospital expenses incurred are payable, as well as funeral expenses up to $10,000.

For more information, call the Kansas Department of Labor – Worker’s Compensation at (800) 332-0353 or visit https://www.dol.ks.gov/WC for more information.

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: Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS): http://www.kpers.org/

HEALTH BENEFITS

Whenever a Kansas state agency or municipality provides for the payment of premiums for any health benefit plan for law enforcement officers employed by such state agency or municipality, the state agency or municipality shall pay premiums for the continuation of coverage under COBRA for the surviving spouse and eligible dependent children under the age of 26 years. Premiums for continuation of coverage shall be paid for 18 months. Contact your department/agency for information.

FUNERAL BENEFITS

Workers’ Compensation Burial expenses of up to $10,000 may be paid. 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.

The Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board provides victims with financial assistance for loss of earnings and out-of-pocket loss for injuries sustained as a direct result of violent crime. This includes reasonable medical care, mental health counseling or other services necessary as a result of the injury. In the event of the death of the victim, reasonable medical expenses and the partial cost of funeral, burial or cremation is reimbursable.

Contact the Crime Victims Compensation Division of the Attorney General's Office by calling (785) 296-2359 or visit https://ag.ks.gov/victim-services/victim-compensation

KANSAS PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION https://www.kpoa.org/

KANSAS STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION http://www.kstroopers.com/

KANSAS STATE LODGE-FOP
https://www.kansasstatefop.org/?zone=/unionactive/view_page.cfm&page=About20Us

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

KANSAS CITY METROPOLITAN CRIME COMMISSION SAFE PROGRAM https://www.kc-crime.org/safe/

SOUTHERN STATES POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC www.sspba.org

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:
City life insurance?
Private life insurance?
County & Local Jurisdiction Benefits?
Retirement Benefits?
Real estate tax relief?