**STATE DEATH BENEFITS**

In the event a public safety officer is killed in the line of duty, the spouse, children, or estate of the officer may be eligible for the one-time payment of $25,000. The order of eligibility is first the spouse. If there is no surviving spouse, then dependents of the officer. If no spouse or dependents, the benefit is paid to the officer’s estate.

If it appears to the commission that a benefit will be paid and if a showing of need is made, the commission may make an interim benefit payment of not more than $3,000.00 to the person or entity who would be entitled to receive the full benefit payment. The amount of an interim benefit payment shall be deducted from the amount of any final benefit paid.

Applications are available at [https://www.michigan.gov/mcoles/0,4607,7-229-41626-230569--00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mcoles/0,4607,7-229-41626-230569--00.html). To receive additional information on the Public Safety Officer Benefit Act, please e-mail the Standards Compliance Section at [msp-mcoles@michigan.gov](mailto:msp-mcoles@michigan.gov) or call 517-636-7864.

**EDUCATION BENEFITS**

The **Survivor Tuition Program** is administered by the Michigan Department of Treasury, Office of Scholarships and Grants. Spouses and children of police officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty may request an application for participation in this tuition waiver program by contacting: [https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/](https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/) 888-447-2687 or email [mistudentaid@michigan.gov](mailto:mistudentaid@michigan.gov).

**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](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.

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**CONFERENCE 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.
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 MICHIGAN - To be eligible for a scholarship grant, applicants must have a parent who has been killed or seriously injured as a result of a work related incident that meets the criteria of the Michigan Workers’ Compensation Act and that has resulted in demonstrated financial need.

For more information or to apply, visit http://www.kidschanceofmi.org/

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION

**Michigan Compiled Laws 418.321** If death results from the personal injury of an employee, the employer shall pay, or cause to be paid, subject to section 375, in 1 of the methods provided in this section, to the dependents of the employee who were wholly dependent upon the employee’s earnings for support at the time of the injury, a weekly payment equal to 80% of the employee's after-tax average weekly wage, subject to the maximum and minimum rates of compensation under this act, for a period of 500 weeks from the date of death. If at the expiration of the 500-week period any such wholly or partially dependent person is less than 21 years of age, a worker's compensation magistrate may order the employer to continue to pay the weekly compensation or some portion thereof until the wholly or partially dependent person reaches the age of 21. If the employee leaves dependents only partially dependent upon his or her earnings for support at the time of injury, the weekly compensation to be paid shall be equal to the same proportion of the weekly payments for the benefit of persons wholly dependent as 80% of the amount contributed by the employee to the partial dependents bears to the annual earnings of the deceased at the time of injury.

Call the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity at 888-396-5041 or visit https://www.michigan.gov/leo/0,5863,7-336-94422_95508---,00.html 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:

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.

Revised 2020
Municipal Employees’ Retirement System (MERS)
http://www.mersofmich.com/Employee/Life-Events/Survivors-Beneficiaries

Michigan Office Of Retirement Services (ORS)
https://www.michigan.gov/ormsp/0,4652,7-224-40611_42206---,00.html

HEALTH BENEFITS

The Michigan Public Safety Officer Benefit Program provides a medical benefit plan to a decedent’s surviving spouse and dependent children, for as long as 60 months, unless the spouse or children are qualified for and covered by a different source. Visit https://www.michigan.gov/mcoles/0,4607,7-229-41626-230569--.00.html for more information.

FUNERAL BENEFITS

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION A reasonable expense of the employee’s funeral and burial up to $6,000 will 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.

**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.

The **Crime Victim Services Commission (CVSC) Compensation Program** may help crime victims, who sustained a personal physical injury, and their immediate families with the financial costs of crime. Costs that may be eligible include medical treatment, counseling, funerals, crime scene clean-up, grief counseling and loss of income or support not paid by other sources. To see if you qualify or to apply, call the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services at (877) 251-7373 or visit https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71548_54783_54853_54855---,00.html

**MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF POLICE** [https://map911.org/about](https://map911.org/about)

**MICHIGAN FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE** [http://www.mifop.com/](http://www.mifop.com/)

**THE HUNDRED CLUB OF GREATER LANSING** [www.100clubofgreaterlansing.org](http://www.100clubofgreaterlansing.org)

**SOUTHERN STATES POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC** [www.sspba.org](http://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](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?