**WYOMING**

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

**STATE DEATH BENEFITS**

There is no one-time benefit available at this time.

**EDUCATION BENEFITS**

**C.O.P.S.** offers a scholarship to surviving spouses and children up to $1500 per semester. Visit [https://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org/scholarship](https://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org/scholarship) for the application.

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.

Call (888) 744-6513 or visit [https://psob.bja.ojp.gov/benefits/](https://psob.bja.ojp.gov/benefits/) or more information.

Check with the Financial Aid Office at the institution.

**WORKERS’ COMPENSATION**

Death Benefits must be filed with the Division within one year from the date of death. The date of death, regardless of the date of injury, will be used to determine benefits. Dependent children's benefits are payable to age 21 or age 25, if the dependent is enrolled in post-secondary education. If the dependent is physically or mentally incapacitated, benefits are payable until the child dies or is qualified for and receiving benefits under the Medicaid home and community based program.

The application for death benefits will be reviewed to determine if all appropriate documents were submitted to substantiate entitlement to surviving spouse and/or dependent children. Appropriate documents would include:

- Death Certificate
- Marriage Certificate
- Birth Certificate of surviving spouse

**CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS (C.O.P.S.)** // (573) 346-4911 // [cops@nationalcops.org](mailto:cops@nationalcops.org)

CONCERNSOFPOLICESPERSURVIVORS.ORG

This information is compiled by National C.O.P.S.

Revised 2019
- Birth Certificate of each dependent child
- Adoption order if applicable

If stepchildren are claimed as dependents, proof of spouse custody agreement must be received.

A spouse receives benefits based on a percentage of wages at the time of death compared to the Statewide Average Wage for 100 months. If there is no spouse, the child or each child will receive a portion of the spouse benefit for 100 months in addition to their monthly benefit in accordance with Wyoming Statute 27-14-403(c). If there are no dependents and the case is compensable it will be opened for payment of funeral and medical expenses only. [http://wyomingworkforce.org/workers/workerscomp/claims/#12](http://wyomingworkforce.org/workers/workerscomp/claims/#12)

---

### 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](http://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

---

### RETIREMENT & PENSION

If your officer participated in the Wyoming Retirement System the Spouse will receive a lifetime benefit of 62.5% of your salary at the time of death, as well as 6% for each child under age 18. If the officer dies in a non-duty related event, the spouse will receive a lifetime benefit of 50% of your salary and 6% for each child under age 18. Death benefits for both duty-related and non-duty related deaths may not exceed 100% of your salary at the time of death. If you are not married you may designate another beneficiary. If you are vested at the time of your death, a non-spousal beneficiary could elect to receive a benefit based on your years of service, highest average salary, and his or her age. If you are not vested, your non-spousal beneficiary would receive a lump sum payment of twice your contributions and interest. For a non-spousal beneficiary to elect a lifetime benefit rather than a lump sum, the beneficiary must be at retirement age to begin the benefit within one year of the date of your death. Otherwise, the non-spousal beneficiary would only be eligible for the lump sum death benefit. Lump sum payouts to non-spousal beneficiaries or estates taking a lump sum payout must be distributed within five years of the date of death. Questions should be
HEALTH BENEFITS

Check with your agencies Human Resources Department for available health benefit information.

FUNERAL BENEFITS

**Workers Compensation** burial expenses of the deceased employee shall be paid in an amount not to exceed $5,000, together with an additional amount of $5,000.00 to cover other related expenses, unless other arrangements exist between the employer and employee under agreement.

**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 @ 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 www.wilbert.com or call (888) WILBERT.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

**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. For complete information, visit concernsofpolicesurvivors.org; email cops@nationalcops.org or call (573) 346-4911. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CST.

**Wyoming Peace Officer Association** $500 Death Benefit Must be a member in good standing
PO Box 1932 Rock Springs, WY 82902 (307) 922-5298

**OTHER BENEFITS TO ASK YOUR AGENCY ABOUT:**
City life insurance?
Private life insurance?