To obtain certified copies of registered personal documents, contact the Bureau of Vital Statistics: Submit written request to 925 E Ridgely AVE, Springfield, IL 62702. Office: (217) 782-6554. www.idph.state.il.us.

**STATE DEATH BENEFITS**

Award benefit pursuant to the Law Enforcement Officers, Civil Defense Workers, Civil Air Patrol Members, Paramedics and Firemen Compensation Act as amended in 1995. Pursuant to Illinois Pension Code, municipalities may provide an allowance not to exceed $15,000 to officer’s beneficiaries. This benefit is adjusted for cost of living on January 1 of each year. Allow 4-8 weeks for the benefit to be processed.

The surviving beneficiary of any State or local governmental law enforcement or public safety officer who is killed in the line of duty may, within one year, make a claim to the Illinois Court of Claims for the Survivor Compensation.

The benefit is payable to a designated beneficiary, or if none has been designated to survivors in the following order: (1) spouse, (2) children, (3) parents, (4) siblings or children of siblings. If there are no such persons, no compensation is payable.

For more information on filing a claim, contact the Illinois Court of Claims at 217-782-7101(Springfield) or 312-814-5010(Chicago), or visit their website.

**FUNERAL BENEFIT**

A burial benefit of up to a maximum of $10,000 is payable to the surviving spouse or estate of a law enforcement officer who is killed in the line of duty on or after January 1, 1999. This benefit is only paid when the family pays for the funeral/burial expenses. It is not paid to municipalities as reimbursement for expenses.

An application for benefits and a Statement of Supervising Officer must be filed with the Court of Claims, 630 South College Street, Springfield, IL 62756, within one year of the date of death. Forms for both the application and statement are available from the Court of Claims Administrative Office (217) 782-1701.

Documentation accompanying the claim should include the officer’s signed Designated Beneficiary form, or if none, proof of the claimant’s relationship, such as a marriage certificate or birth certificate.
EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
The children, under age 25, and the surviving spouse of any police officer or firefighter killed in the line of duty while serving the State or any local public entity in Illinois are eligible to receive a waiver of tuition and matriculation and registration fees for a total of 120 credit hours.

This benefit is provided for attendance at state vocational-technical schools, public community colleges, and State universities, and may be either full-time or part-time.

For more information contact the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, 1755 Lake Crook RD, Deerfield, IL 60015. Office: (847) 948-8500. www.isac.org

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION
Workers’ Compensation coverage is compulsory for employers in Illinois. Workers’ Compensation benefits are payable to the surviving spouse and dependents of any officer or firefighter who is killed in the line of duty.

Benefits available include:
A. Funeral expense benefit;
B. All first aid, medical and hospital expenses connected with the fatal injury;
C. 66 2/3% of the deceased’s average weekly wage continuing weekly until:
   * the surviving spouse is compensated for 20 years,
   * minor children attain age 18 and leave school,
   * minor children attain age 23 while attending an accredited educational institution, or
   * dependency of any other dependent (parent, collateral, grandchild) ends.

In order to file for benefits, the following documents will be needed:
A. Marriage certificate;
B. Certified copy of death certificate;
C. Certified copy of minor child’s birth certificate; and
D. For other dependents, copies of tax returns showing claimed dependency.

For more information contact the Illinois Workers’ Compensation Commission, 100 W. Randolph Street, 8th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60601. Office: (312) 814-6611. www.iwcc.il.gov

HEALTH BENEFITS
Health benefits vary depending upon police department benefits. Spouses of state and county officers may elect to continue to participate in the same benefit program in effect at the time of the officer’s death. Contact the Benefits Coordinator at your agency.
**RETIREMENT/PENSION**
Individual cities and municipalities are responsible for providing retirement and pension plans for law enforcement officers. Contact your local agency’s Benefits Assistance Officer.

**ADDITIONAL BENEFITS**
**PEER SUPPORT ORGANIZATION**
Established in 1984, 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 professional, and local peer-support organizations to provide assistance to surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. C.O.P.S. has become a “lifeline” to police survivors nationwide. Contact the C.O.P.S. National Office at (573) 346-4911 or visit [https://www.nationalcops.org/localchapters.html](https://www.nationalcops.org/localchapters.html) for information on a chapter in your area.

The Fraternal Order of Police, Illinois State Lodge provides an accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy for all members with benefits for line of duty deaths. Members must be in good standing with the lodge to qualify for the benefit. For more information contact the Illinois FOP, 4341 Acer Grove, Suite B, Springfield, IL 62711. Toll free: (800) 522-2677 or Office: (217) 726-8880. [www.ilfop.org](http://www.ilfop.org).

The Illinois Police Association provides a $5,000 death benefit for active members who are killed in the line of duty. The Association can be contacted at 7508 North Avenue, Elmwood Park, IL 60707. Office: (708) 452-8332. [www.ipacops.org](http://www.ipacops.org).

*There are other fraternal or professional organizations serving law enforcement and public safety officers in different areas of the State and the nation. Any such organization of which the deceased officer was a member should be contacted and advised of the death, and inquiry should be made regarding any benefits which are available.*

**STATE POLICE MEMORIAL**
The Illinois State Police Memorial is located on Lawrence Avenue, across the street from the Illinois State Police Headquarters in Springfield, IL.

**ILLINOIS CRIME VICTIM’S COMPENSATION ACT**
The Crime Victims Compensation Act offers financial assistance for eligible victims of violent crime. Relatives of deceased victims in the State of Illinois may be eligible to receive compensation up to $27,000, which includes a maximum of $5,000 for funeral and burial expenses.
Funeral and Burial Costs. All costs associated with the funeral and burial of the victim, including travel and transportation costs to survivors of homicide victims to secure bodies and transport them for burial. These expenses may be covered up to $5,000.

Loss of Support. Spouses and minor children (under the age of 18) who were dependent on the victim for financial support may also be eligible for loss of support. Loss of support is reimbursed at a maximum of $1,000 per month until the amount set by law is reached.

Mental Health Treatment. The parents of a homicide victim and any minor child or minor sibling of a homicide victim may be eligible for reimbursement of costs for psychological treatment related to the crime.

Other Expenses. The parents of a homicide victim may be eligible for other incurred expenses, such as their own loss of earnings.

For all requirements and complete information, consult the: Crime Victims Compensation Act, [http://www.ag.state.il.us/victims/cvc.html](http://www.ag.state.il.us/victims/cvc.html).

FUNERAL AND CREMATION 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 [www.dignitymemorial.com](http://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](http://www.wilbert.com), or call (800) 323-7188.