IOWA
DEATH BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO THE SURVIVING FAMILIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY


STATE DEATH BENEFITS
The Iowa Public Employees’ Retirement System (IPERS) will pay a lump sum up to $100,000 (subject to the Internal Revenue Code maximum) when the death of any member is deemed to be a direct and proximate result of a traumatic personal injury incurred in the line of duty. This death benefit payment will close the IPERS account. This payment will not affect pension benefits. A line of duty death benefit shall not be payable if the death resulted from stress, strain, occupational illness, or a chronic, progressive, or congenital illness, including, but not limited to, a disease of the heart, lungs, or respiratory system, unless a traumatic personal injury was a substantial contributing factor to the member's death; if the death was caused by the intentional misconduct of the member or by the member’s intent to cause the member's own death; if the member was voluntarily intoxicated at the time of death; if the member was performing the member's duties in a grossly negligent manner at the time of death; if an individual who would otherwise be entitled to a benefit was, through the individual's actions, a substantial contributing factor to the member’s death.

For more information, visit https://www.ipers.org/ or call IPERS at 1(800) 622-3849.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
Educational benefits are available, contact your institution to apply for these benefits. These benefits are paid out on a need basis, this benefit must be approved through the state.

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION
Workers’ Compensation coverage is compulsory for Iowa employers; however, waivers are permitted. Benefit is 80% of worker’s spendable earnings for surviving spouse or surviving spouse and child(ren), with a minimum weekly benefit of $139 or actual wage if less than $139 and a maximum weekly benefit of $1543. There is also a maximum burial allowance of $5,000. Spouse receives two-year lump sum payable upon remarriage if no children. Children receive benefits until age 18 or beyond age 18 if physically or mentally disabled, or until age 25 if full-time students. To receive workers’ compensation benefits the surviving spouse must take the initiative and file a worker’s
compensation claim through a workers’ compensation attorney to receive any compensation. The determination as to whether the claim will be paid will be determined by the Workers’ Compensation Appeals Board. For more information contact the Division of Workers’ Compensation, 1000 E. Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319-0209, or (800) 645-4583. http://www.iowaworkcomp.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 for information on a chapter in your area.

State Peace Officers Association
The Secretary/Treasurer of this corporation, upon authoritative information of the death of any member in good standing, shall pay to such beneficiary as has been named by such member, a sum of money in such an amount as from time to time shall be fixed by the Board of Directors, but not in excess of the amount of five hundred dollars (500.00), as a donation to assist in the defrayment of the expenses of the burial of such deceased member. For more information contact the Iowa Peace Officers Association, P.O. Box 100, Denver, Iowa 50622. Office: 319-269-4104. www.iowapeaceofficers.org

Iowa State Trooper Association
ISTA provides benefits for members to $5000 in the event of an active member being killed in the line of duty or dies of any cause. This is to be paid to a spouse, children or parents. The member must be active in the ISP and ISTA at the time of the death. ISTA also provides to its members a death benefit to the family if an active member’s wife or
a child dies. For more information contact the Iowa State Trooper Association, 203 State ST. Emmetsburg, IA 50536. Office (563) 451-9655. www.iowatroopers.com

Iowa State Sheriffs & Deputies Association
ISSDA was created in 1974 when the Iowa Sheriff’s Association and the Iowa Deputy Sheriff’s Association merged. The Iowa State Sheriff’s & Deputies Association will pay $3,000 to the beneficiary of any Sheriff or Deputy that is killed in the line of duty. For more information, please contact the ISSDA at www.issda.org

Memorial
The Iowa Peace Officers Monument is located on the State Capitol grounds at East 9th and Grand Streets in Des Moines, Iowa.

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 and look under Public Servants for details. You may also call 847-824-4145 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 800.323.7188.