To obtain certified copies of registered personal documents, contact the Bureau of Vital Statistics: Submit written request to PO Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Office: (573) 751-6387. www.health.mo.gov

STATE DEATH BENEFITS
Benefits are available for survivors of firefighters, volunteer firefighters, law enforcement officers, air ambulance pilots, air ambulance registered professional nurses, and emergency medical technicians who are killed in the line of duty when:

- Death is caused by an accident or willful act of violence of another;
- The individual is in the active performance of his/her duties and there is a relationship between the accident or commission of the act of violence and the performance of the duty, even when off duty;
- The individual is traveling to or from employment; or the individual is taking a meal break or other break while on duty;
- The injury is the cause of death. See the Line of Duty Compensation Act Section 287.243 RSMo. A $25,000 death benefit shall be awarded to the estate of the individual killed in the line of duty. The death benefit is in addition to any other pension rights, death benefits, or other compensation to which the claimant may otherwise be entitled by law.

To claim benefits, the estate of the deceased must file a Claim of Compensation with the Division within one year from the date of death.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
Within the limits of the amounts appropriated therefore, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education shall provide a grant for either of the following to attend an institution of postsecondary education:

- An eligible child of a public safety officer or employee killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty; or
- A spouse of a public safety officer or employee killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty.

An eligible child or spouse may receive a grant only so long as the child or spouse is enrolled in a program leading to a certificate, or an associate or baccalaureate degree. In no event shall a child or spouse receive a grant beyond the completion of the first baccalaureate degree or, in the case of a child, age twenty-four years, except that the child may receive a grant through the completion of the semester or similar grading period in which the child reaches his 24th year. No child or spouse shall receive more
than 100% of tuition when combined with similar funds made available to such child or spouse.

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education may determine minimum standards of performance in order for a child or spouse to remain eligible to receive a grant under this program. An eligible child or spouse who is enrolled or has been accepted for enrollment as an undergraduate postsecondary student at an approved institution of postsecondary education shall receive a grant in an amount not to exceed the lesser of the actual tuition or the amount of tuition charged a Missouri resident at the University of Missouri for attendance as a full-time student taking 12 hours.

If an eligible child or spouse is granted financial assistance under any other student aid program, public or private, the full amount of such aid shall be reported to the Board by the institution and the eligible child or spouse.

For information contact the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. Office: (573) 751-2361. www.dhe.mo.gov

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION**
Workers' Compensation coverage is compulsory for employers in Missouri with 5 or more employees.

Benefit for spouse or spouse and child(ren) is 66 2/3% of the employee's wages with a maximum weekly benefit of $827.75. Two-year lump sum payable to spouse upon remarriage and weekly benefits cease.

Children receive benefits until age 18 or beyond age 18 if disabled, or until age 22 if full-time students, and beyond age 23 if on active duty in the armed Forces. There is also a maximum burial allowance of $5,000.

For information contact the Division of Workers' Compensation, State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Office: (573) 751-4231. www.labor.mo.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 (800) 784-2611 or visit [www.nationalcops.org/chap.htm](http://www.nationalcops.org/chap.htm) for information on a chapter in your area.

The **Missouri Peace Officer's Association** offers a one-time benefit of $1,000 to the family of an officer who is killed in the line of duty as approved on a case-by-case basis by the executive board. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Missouri Peace Officers' Association 618 SE 4th ST, Lee's Summit, MO 64063. Office: (816)581-3767. [www.mopoa.org](http://www.mopoa.org)

The **Missouri Association of State Troopers Emergency Relief Society (MASTERS)** provides assistance to families of Missouri state troopers killed in the line of duty. This organization provides financial assistance for funeral expenses, home mortgages, and student educational benefits for immediate family members. Further information can be obtained by contacting The MASTERS, 5287 Highway 67 North, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901. Office: (573) 686-1619. [www.themastersmo.org](http://www.themastersmo.org)

The **State FOP Lodge** offers a $1,000 life insurance policy on all members, increasing $100 per year he/she is a member, to a maximum of $1,500. This amount is tripled if the officer is slain in the line of duty.

The Parole Board, directed by statute, notifies victims of escapees, furloughs and parole hearings. Contact your local Missouri Department of Corrections Board of Probation and Parole. If the victim responds in any way to the hearing notice, they are also notified of specific release plans. However, the Board is not bound by statute and does not notify victims of inmate movement within the prison system.

**Backstoppers** (The Policemen & Firemen Fund of St. Louis, Inc.)
From 1959, The Backstoppers have but one purpose: To ease suffering and provide much-needed financial assistance for the spouses and dependent children of policemen.
and firefighters who lose their lives in the performance of duty. The Backstoppers offer of assistance is proffered to families of members of all local, county, police and fire departments. The Backstoppers serve a geographical area that includes the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, Jefferson County, St. Charles County, and Franklin County in Missouri; and the Illinois counties of Madison and St. Clair. For information contact Backstoppers, 10411 Clayton Road Suite A5, St. Louis, Missouri 63131. Office: (314) 692-0200. www.backstoppers.org

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL
The Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial is located behind the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City, Missouri.

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 @ 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.