Wyoming
Death Benefits Available to the Surviving Families of Law Enforcement Officers Killed in the Line of Duty

To obtain certified copies of registered personal documents, contact the Bureau of Vital Statistics: Submit written request to 2300 Capitol AVE, Cheyenne, WY 82002. Office: (307) 777-7591. www.health.wyo.gov

State Death Benefits
There is no one-time benefit available.

Educational Benefits
Check with the Financial Aid Office at the institution.

Workers' Compensation
In all cases of injury resulting in death, an application 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
- 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. The 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. The determination as to whether the claim will be paid will be determined by the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. For more information please visit the Division of Workers' Compensation, at www.wyomingworkforce.org

**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.

**Wyoming Crime Victims Compensation Commission**, program to help if you or a family member is a victim of violent crime. Out-of-pocket expenses may be reimbursed after deducting amounts received or available from other sources such as insurance.

- *Maximum award up to $15,000*
- *Funeral Expenses up to $5,000*
- *Emergency awards up to $1,000*

For more information contact the Wyoming Crime Victims Compensation Commission, 122 West 25th ST, Herschler Bldg, 1st Floor West, Cheyenne, WY 82002. Office: (307) 777-7200.

[www.victimservices.wyoming.gov](http://www.victimservices.wyoming.gov)
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.