



KANSAS CITY MISSOURI POLICE DEPARTMENT

PERSONNEL POLICY

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NO.

1008-1

SUBJECT

Policy Series 1000: Benefits
1008 – Line of Duty Death and Disability Benefits for Officers

AMENDS

REFERENCE

RESCINDS

PPBM: 1008

I. INTRODUCTION

If an officer is killed or disabled in the line of duty, federal and state programs have been established to assist the family of the officer. In addition to these programs, there are organizations that have been established with the purpose of assisting sick and injured members.

II. FEDERAL BENEFITS

***A. Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvement Act of 2017**

The Public Safety Officers' Benefits Act was first enacted in 1976 (PSOB Program), and provides death benefits in the form of a one-time financial payment to the eligible survivors of public safety officers whose deaths are the direct and proximate result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty.

The PSOB Program provides a one-time benefit for public safety officers who have been permanently and totally disabled by a catastrophic injury sustained in the line of duty if that injury prevents the officer from performing any gainful work.

The PSOB Program includes the Public Safety Officers' Educational Assistance Act. This act provides financial assistance for higher education for the spouses and children of federal, state, and local public safety officers who have been permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty.

The Employee Benefits Section will assist the family members in filing for these benefits. Claims are filed online.

***B. Dale Long Act of 2007**

The Dale Long Act of 2007 recognizes that a public safety officer who dies as a result of a heart attack, stroke or vascular rupture following a non-routine stressful or strenuous physical public safety activity or training, falls within the parameters of a "line of duty death", and that officer's family may receive benefits. The death must have occurred no later than 24 hours after engaging or participating in the activity. Non-routine stressful or strenuous physical activities exclude actions of a clerical, administrative, or non-manual nature. The Employee Benefits Section will assist the survivors in filing for these benefits.

III. STATE OF MISSOURI BENEFITS

*A. Line of Duty Death Compensation Fund

Benefits of \$25,000.00 dollars are available for survivors of law enforcement officers who are 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. The Employee Benefits Section will assist the survivors in filing for these benefits. (RSMo. 287.243.1)

*B. Education Benefits

1. The Board for Higher Education has a grant program that provides tuition assistance for either of the following to attend an institution of postsecondary education:
 - a. An eligible child of a public safety officer or employee killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty; or
 - b. A spouse of a public safety officer or employee killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty.
2. 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 spouse or child receive a grant beyond the completion of the first baccalaureate degree. The child may not receive a grant past the age of twenty-three (23) unless the child turns twenty-four (24) during the grading period or semester.
3. No child or spouse will 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 will be reported to the Board by the institution and the eligible child or spouse.
4. The Employee Benefits Section will assist the family members in filing for these benefits.

IV. ORGANIZATIONS

*A. Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 99 and 102

The Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 99 and 102, provide death and disability benefits for officers who are members of the organization.

*B. Missouri Peace Officers Association

The Missouri Peace Officers Association (MPOA) is one of the oldest and largest associations of law enforcement personnel in the state of Missouri. Membership in the MPOA is open to all branches and ranks of the criminal justice field. MPOA provides a death benefit for officers who are members of the organization.

C. Surviving Spouse and Family Endowment Fund

The Surviving Spouse and Family Endowment Fund (SAFE) exists to support the families of Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, and Emergency Services Personnel in the Kansas City metropolitan area who have died while protecting the community and its citizens. SAFE provides a death benefit for officers who are members of the organization.

Richard C. Smith
Chief of Police

Adopted by the Board of Police Commissioners this ___ day of _____, 2018.

Leland Shurin
Board President

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