

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Benefits for Public Safety Officers

Policy Number: 104.42

Effective Date: 7/1/2020

Page Number: 1 of 3

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Administration & Finance
Division (Human Resources)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

I. Introduction and Summary:

Law enforcement officers, firefighters, chaplains and emergency medical technicians or their eligible survivors, may be eligible for certain benefits through the federal Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) program, the Georgia State Indemnification Program, Correctional Peace Officers Foundation and the Georgia Public Safety Memorial (GPSM) Grant, if they are killed in the line of duty, or they become disabled by a catastrophic injury received in the line of duty.

II. Authority:

- A. Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Act (42 U.S.C. §10281, *et seq.*); and
- B. O.C.G.A. § 45-9-81, *et seq.*

III. Definitions: None.

IV. Statement of Policy and Applicable Procedures:

A. Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program (PSOB):

1. The Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program provides a one-time financial benefit to public safety officers or the eligible survivors of public safety officers whose death or disability is the direct and proximate result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty, which includes certain eligible heart attacks or strokes.
2. The PSOB Program is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.
3. For additional information on PSOB programs and educational benefits, refer to the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Fact Sheet. Benefits will be payable according to the rules and regulations of the program at the time of the loss.
4. For the most up to date program rules and regulations go to:

<https://PSOB.BJA.OJP.Gov/Content/>

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5. Eligible survivors or disability claimants may file claims directly with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). For claim forms or additional information, see:

<https://PSOB.BJA.OJP.Gov/Benefits/>

B. State Indemnification Fund:

1. The Georgia State Indemnification Fund provides a financial benefit when a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, or prison guard, who in the line of duty, is killed or receives bodily injury which results in death, permanent disability or partial permanent disability. There is a supplemental income provision, under limited circumstances, when a law enforcement officer or firefighter is temporarily disabled.
2. The program is currently administered by the Georgia Department of Administrative Services.
3. Benefits will be payable according to the rules and regulations of the program, at the time of the loss.
4. The most up to date program rules and regulations may be obtained at the Georgia State Indemnification Commission:

<http://ssl.doas.state.ga.us/html/indem/index.html>

5. For additional information or an application for benefits, contact:

Georgia State Indemnification Commission
Floyd Contract Station
P.O. Box 347118
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-0118
Tel: 404-657-4437

C. Georgia Public Safety Memorial (GPSM) Grant:

1. The Georgia Public Safety Memorial (GPSM) Grant is a student financial aid program to eligible Georgia residents, who are dependent children of eligible

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Georgia public safety officers who were killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty and attend an eligible public college/university or eligible public technical college, in Georgia.

2. The non-repayable grant program is administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) and funded by the Georgia Lottery for Education.
3. Benefits are payable according to the rules and regulations of the program, at the time of attendance.
4. For the most up to date program rules, regulations and an application, go to:

<http://www.gafutures.org>

D. Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF):

1. The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation provides a financial benefit to the survivors of on-duty Correctional Peace Officers murdered at the hands of incarcerated felons. CPOF also offers a Catastrophic Assistance Program.
2. The CPOF is a national non-profit charitable organization of, by and for those that work in the Corrections Profession.
3. Benefits will be payable according to the rules and regulations of the program, at the time of the loss.
4. For the most up to date program rules and regulations go to:

<http://www.cpof.org/>

V. **Attachments:** None.

VI. **Record Retention of Forms Relevant to this Policy:** None.