

STATE DISABILITY BENEFITS

Members of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS), County Employees Retirement System (CERS), or State Police Retirement System (SPRS) that become disabled during the course of employment, may be eligible to receive disability retirement benefits from the respective Kentucky Retirement Systems (KRS).

Follow the KRS links for more information regarding benefits available:

Disability Brochure

<https://kyret.ky.gov/Publications/Books/KRS%20Disability%20Retirement%20Brochure.pdf>

Books and Guides

<https://kyret.ky.gov/Publications/Pages/Books%20and%20Guides.aspx>

Contact KRS

<https://kyret.ky.gov/Contact/Pages/default.aspx>

How to Apply:

<https://kyret.ky.gov/Members/Disability%20Benefits/Pages/Eligibility%20Requirements.aspx>

Complete Form 6000, Notification of Retirement - no later than 24 months after your last day of employment from your full-time position. KRS will mail a disability packet to you for completion.

CHECKLIST FOR STATE BENEFITS

- All medical information pertaining to the disabling condition for which you are applying for
- Complete Form 8035, Employee Job Description
- Complete Form 8040, Prescription and Non-prescription Medications
- Complete Form 8001, Certification of Application for Disability Retirement and Supporting Medical Information

KRS will send your employing agency Form 8030, Employer Job Description. This certifies the job duties of your position and reasonable accommodations were requested under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

CHECKLIST FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION APPLICATION

KRS 132.810(2)(a) Every person filing an application for exemption under the homestead exemption provision must be sixty-five (65) years of age or older during the year for which application is made or must have been classified as totally disabled under a program authorized or administered by an agency of the United States government or by any retirement system either within or without the Commonwealth of Kentucky on January 1 of the year in which application is made. Follow the link <https://revenue.ky.gov/Property/Residential-Farm-Commercial-Property/Pages/Homestead-Exemption.aspx>

- Complete Form 62A350, Application for Exemption Under The Homestead/Disability Amendment
- Gather supporting documentation required in form
- Contact local Property Value Administrator

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Check with your agency's Human Resource administrator for agency specific information regarding benefits that may be available to you.

Contacts to Know

Kentucky Retirement Systems

Disability and Survivor Benefits

<https://kyret.ky.gov>

krs.mail@kyret.ky.gov

Perimeter Park West

1260 Louisville Road

Frankfort, KY 40601

1-800-928-4646

Kentucky Department of Revenue

<https://revenue.ky.gov>

Kentucky Department of Workers' Claims

<https://labor.ky.gov>

Department of Workers' Claims

657 Chamberlin Avenue

Frankfort, KY 40601

502-564-5550

Additional Resources:

Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police

KACP Retired Representative

<https://kypolicechiefs.org/>

3804 Walhampton Drive

Lexington, KY 40517

859-948-2647

Kentucky Sheriff's Association

<https://kentuckysheriffs.ky.gov>

Kentucky Association of Counties

<https://www.kaco.org>

rich.ornstein@kaco.org

502-223-7667

1-800-264-5226

The Wounded Blue

<https://thewoundedblue.org>

7881 W. Charleston Blvd Suite 110

Las Vegas NV 89117

725-222-3967

June 2019

This document is intended for educational purposes only and not meant to be for specific legal advice. Please contact your legal advisor for specific legal advice.

STATE EDUCATION BENEFITS

KRS 164.2842 Free tuition at state-supported school for survivor of police officer, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter permanently and totally disabled in line of duty - Free tuition at state-supported school for survivor of other state-administered retirement system participants disabled as a request of duty-related injury.

CHECKLIST FOR STATE EDUCATION BENEFITS

Criteria: KRS 164.2842(1)(a) The spouse, regardless of age, and any child of a permanently and totally disabled law enforcement officer, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter injured while in active service or in training for active service, who is over the age of seventeen (17) and under the age of twenty-three (23) shall not be required to pay any matriculation or tuition fee upon his admission to any state-supported university, community college, or vocational training institution for a period not in excess of thirty-six (36) months in order to obtain a diploma, nor in excess of the lesser number of months required for a certificate of completion.

- CERTIFIED Marriage license or other documented evidence (If applicable)
- CERTIFIED Divorce decree or other documented evidence (If applicable)
- CERTIFIED Birth certificate or Adoption Papers for children or other documented evidence (If applicable)
- Documentation from the city, county, or law enforcement agency which employed the disabled officer (below is a sample letter for your agency)

DATE

RE: Tuition Fee Waiver Certification
STUDENT NAME and DOB

The following information is provided as the certification of records required by KRS 164.2842. On the DATE, YEAR, the AGENCY NAME awarded a disability pension to PARENT NAME, a law enforcement officer with the AGENCY NAME.

For purpose of the pension fund, the retirement awarded PARENT NAME a total and permanent occupational disability due to an "in the line of duty" injury, as those terms are defined in KRS 67A.360(11) and (16).

If you have any questions concerning this certification or if I can be of further assistance, please call me at (XXX)XXX-XXXX.

Sincerely,
XXXXXXX

Please provide the Financial Aid Office of the university, community or technical college in which you have enrolled your state educational benefits.

If you have any questions regarding education benefits please contact:
Department of Criminal Justice Training
Benefit's Office
521 Lancaster Avenue
Funderburk Building
Richmond, KY 40475
(859) 622-2967

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State-Supported Universities

Eastern Kentucky University
<https://www.eku.edu>

Kentucky State University
<https://ksu.edu>

Morehead State University
<https://www.moreheadstate.edu>

Murray State University
<https://www.murraystate.edu>

Northern Kentucky University
<https://www.nku.edu>

University of Kentucky
<http://www.uky.edu>

University of Louisville
<http://louisville.edu>

Western Kentucky University
<https://www.wku.edu>

State-Supported Community Colleges

<https://kctcs.edu>

Ashland Community and Technical College
Big Sandy Community and Technical College
Bluegrass Community and Technical College
Elizabethtown Community and Technical College

Gateway Community and Technical College
Hazard Community and Technical College
Henderson Community College
Hopkinsville Community College

Jefferson Community and Technical College
Madisonville Community College
Maysville Community and Technical College
Owensboro Community and Technical College
Somerset Community College
Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College

Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College
West Kentucky Community and Technical College

June 2019

FEDERAL BENEFITS Public Safety Officer Disability Benefits

As of October 2017, all Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) are completed via the online claims portal. If you are following up on a claim prior to October 10, 2017, contact PSOB Office at AskPSOB@usdoj.gov or call 1-888-744-6513

View PSOB tutorial video on information for filing for benefits go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxvZuT4Nb4Q&feature=youtu>.

Follow link <https://psob.bja.ojp.gov/benefits> for online benefit applications. You must sign in or register a new account to apply for any and all benefits.

CLAIM FOR DISABILITY BENEFITS APPLICATION PART A (completed by the officer)

Please see attached pamphlet from the US Department of Justice for all required documentation needed.

CLAIM FOR DISABILITY BENEFITS APPLICATION PART B (completed by law enforcement agency of disabled officer)

Please see attached pamphlet from the US Department of Justice for all required documentation needed.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PSOEA)

Follow link <https://psob.bja.ojp.gov/benefits> for online benefit applications. You must sign in or register a new account to apply for education benefits.

Scroll to bottom of page and click on Application Instructions for Public Safety Officers' Educational Assistance (PSOEA) Benefits for any questions you may have.

CLAIM FOR EDUCATION BENEFITS PRE-SCREEN - PART 1

Eligible applicants: spouse and children who have previously been approved for PSOB death or disability claims. This is to confirm eligibility.

- Public Safety Officer's children have until age 27
- Available 45 months of full-time education or training
- Proportional period for a part-time program

CLAIM FOR EDUCATION BENEFITS - PART 2

Once you are confirmed and accepted, you will be given access to complete your initial Payment Application.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

A claim must be completed with a Social Security office. Social Security office asks that you apply as soon as you become disabled. Benefits will not start until the sixth full month of a disability due to the waiting period that begins with the first full month after the date that is decided when your disability began.

You can apply online at <https://secure.ssa.gov/iClaim/dib>, you may call 1-800-772-1213 or visit any convenient Social Security office.

Follow link https://www.ssa.gov/disability/disability_starter_kits.htm for your disability starter kit to help be ready for your disability interview or online application.

Contacts to Know

Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program

Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice
<https://psob.bja.ojp.gov/benefits/>
AskPSOB@usdoj.gov
888-744-6513

Social Security Administration

<https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/survivors/>
1-800-772-1213
TTY 1-800-325-0778

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Benefits

<https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/ssi/>

United States Department of Labor

Office of Workers' Compensation
<https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/workcomp>

Additional Resources:

Benefits/Insurance
<https://www.usa.gov/disability-benefits-insurance>

Financial Assistance/Support Services
<https://www.usa.gov/disability-financial-support>

Benefit Eligibility Screening Tool
<https://ssabest.benefits.gov/>

If you have any questions please contact:

Department of Criminal Justice Training
Benefit's Office
521 Lancaster Avenue
Funderburk Building
Richmond, KY 40475
(859) 622-2967

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PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS DISABILITY BENEFITS PROGRAM



Required Documents

FILING A PSOB DISABILITY CLAIM

U.S. Department of Justice



IMPORTANT: In general, Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) claims must be filed within 3 years of the public safety officer's disability. To discuss claims that fall outside of this filing period, please call the PSOB Office directly at 1-888-744-6513.

Disability Benefits Application - Part A and B

Collect and upload the following required documents regarding the officer's line-of-duty injury.

- Disability Benefits Part A application completed and electronically signed by the disabled officer or authorized representative.
- Disability Benefits Part B application completed and electronically signed by the head of the former employing agency or designee.
- Agency Accident or Incident Report containing information relevant to each incident and injury that contributed to the officer's disability.
- Statement signed by the disabled officer or authorized representative that addresses the following questions:
 - What is the highest educational level the disabled officer achieved? Has the disabled officer completed any special training or courses, including military training?
 - Has the disabled officer received any formal vocational or functional capacity evaluation or vocational rehabilitative treatment? If so, provide a copy of the report.
 - Has the disabled officer worked at any job following the injuries? If so, where?
- IRS "Wage and Income Transcript" for the past three years. These documents are available without charge from the IRS by mail or online at <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/tax-return-transcript-types-and-ways-to-order-them>.
- Medical Documentation, including admission and discharge summaries from medical facilities, as well as a final medical diagnosis for each injury.
- Volunteer Fire Departments (VFD), Rescue Squad, Ambulance Crew Only: Supporting documentation of department's volunteer status, *if applicable*.
 - If VFD, Rescue Squad, or Ambulance Crew is a nonprofit/chartered corporation, a statement on letterhead, signed by an elected official such as a mayor, county commissioner, etc., which states:

"The [insert name of VFD, Rescue Squad, or Ambulance Crew] is legally organized and is authorized by the [insert name of government agency] to act on its behalf by providing [fire services or rescue activities, or emergency medical services] as its primary function, to the community of [insert name of jurisdiction]."

SUBMIT

Submit the above information via PSOB 2.0. Keep a complete copy for your records.

- File online at www.psob.gov**

Because every PSOB case is unique, additional information may be requested to clarify or establish the eligibility of claims and beneficiaries according to the PSOB Act and its regulations.

While the PSOB Office hopes that no officer, agency, or family ever requires our services, we stand ready to assist you throughout the claim process. Do not hesitate to contact the PSOB Office toll free at 1-888-744-6513 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time or by email at AskPSOB@usdoj.gov for assistance with any part of the PSOB claim.



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

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