

# **COPS MARYLAND CHAPTER**

## **COPS Scholarship Rules and Regulations**

### ***Purpose of COPS Scholarship***

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to family survivors of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty\* who wish to pursue a course of study beyond high school.

### ***Eligibility for Scholarships***

The surviving children under the age of 30 and surviving spouses of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty\* shall be eligible for COPS MD Chapter scholarships.

Surviving spouses who have remarried continue to be eligible for COPS MD Chapter scholarships. However, requests from remarried surviving spouses will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and the Committee may consider various factors.

The financial assistance can be used to supplement state or private tuition assistance. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, books, lab fees, room and board and other recognized school expenses, such expenses being at the discretion of the Committee while the applicant is a full-time student. In addition, the financial assistance can be used for survivors who are attending out of state schools.

### ***Limitation of Benefits***

Applicants seeking financial assistance for education purposes shall be limited to the receipt of not more than \$2,000 per semester of full time study or \$1,000 per semester of part time study. Scholarship awards shall not exceed \$16,000 maximum life time benefit. The amount of the award received in combination with other awards and scholarship shall not exceed expenses and tuition per semester. Any unused amount will be returned to COPS MD Chapter.

### ***\*Killed in the Line of Duty***

Concerns of Police Survivors, MD Chapter, Inc. shall recognize as line-of-duty deaths those deaths of law enforcement officers living and/or working in Maryland which meet Federal government criteria for line-of-duty death.

### *Awarding of Scholarships*

Scholarship recipients shall be determined by a Scholarship Committee. The Committee does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin or religion. The Scholarship Committee will award scholarships on a uniform basis, considering academic performance, extra-curricular activities, community service, and financial need. Should applicants be the recipients of any other financial aid from another source, this fact in and of itself will not disqualify the applicant from the scholarship awards. However, that fact will be considered prior to making the awards. The relative weight and importance to be given to the criteria will be in the Scholarship Committee's sole discretion, and the Scholarship Committee will not be required to apply rigid selection criteria. All decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.

### *Scholarship Applications*

Scholarship applicants must submit a completed application by the date indicated on the application. The Scholarship Committee may not consider late or incomplete applications.

COPS Maryland Chapter scholarships are awarded **two** times annually: Fall/Winter semester (begins late August or early September) and Spring (begins January or February). A completed application is required for consideration for each semester, and the awarding of a scholarship for any one semester does not guarantee a scholarship for any future semesters.

The awarding of the scholarships by the Committee will be dependent on the amount of funding available from the COPS Maryland Chapter organization for any given year.

Any of the foregoing sections may be repealed, amended or deleted upon recommendation of the Scholarship Committee, with the approval of the Executive Board of Directors of Concerns of Police Survivors, Maryland Charter, Incorporated.