

United States
Department
of Agriculture

Forest Service



FIREFIGHTER BENEFITS FOR INJURY AND DEATH

Basic Life Insurance for permanent, While Actually Employed (WAE) and career seasonal employees

- Amount equal to the double the employee's annual salary plus \$2000.00 up to age 35.
- Benefit begins to decrease at age 36.

Health Insurance

- Available to permanent, WAE and career seasonal employees.

Retirement

- Available to permanent, WAE and career seasonal employees
- Under (Federal Employee Retirement System) FERS:
 - The employee is eligible after 18 months of permanent service
 - \$15,000 basic benefit
 - 50% of yearly salary
 - Additional survivor's annuity after 10 years of service
 - Children are entitled to an annuity if employee completed 18 months of service

Office of Workman's Compensation (OWCP) – Enforces Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) when employees are injured or killed in the line of duty.

- Widow/Widower will receive 50% of employees monthly salary if there are no surviving eligible children; 45% if there are eligible children
- Children will receive 15% each, not exceed 30% if there is a surviving spouse. If there is no surviving spouse, 40% for one child plus 15% for each additional child. Monthly benefits not to exceed 75% of employee's monthly salary.
- Funeral/burial expenses are a maximum of \$800 including transportation costs.

Public Safety Officers' Benefit Act (through the Dept of Justice) – Employee is eligible in the event of permanent disability or death while in the performance of duties in law enforcement, firefighter, or a member of a public rescue squad or ambulance crew.

- Benefit is based on \$100,000 and adjusted on Consumer Price Index after June 1, 1988.
- If surviving children and spouse, one-half to children in equal shares and one-half to spouse,
- If no surviving children, benefit to go to surviving spouse
- If no surviving spouse, benefit to go to children in equal shares
- In no spouse or children, benefit to parent/parents in equal shares