



FINANCIAL AID GUIDANCE MEMO

REFERENCE: **FA 18-002**
TOPIC: **OHIO SAFETY OFFICERS COLLEGE MEMORIAL FUND**
AUTHOR: **RAMAH CHURCH, PROGRAM MANAGER**
DATE: **19 JULY 2017 Revised 02 AUGUST 2017**
RELEVANT STATUTE: **OHIO REVISED CODE, SECTION 3333.26**

Ohio Revised Code

The Ohio Revised Code for the Ohio Safety Officers College Memorial Fund (OSO) can be found at:
<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3333.26>.

This program provides undergraduate tuition assistance to the children and spouses of peace officers, fire fighters and certain other safety officers who are killed in the line-of-duty, anywhere in the United States. It also provides undergraduate tuition assistance to the children and spouses of a member of the armed services of the U.S., who has been killed in the line of duty during Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom or a combat zone designated by the President of the United States. **The student is only eligible for this program if he/she is an Ohio resident and is not eligible for the Ohio War Orphans Scholarship.**

Award Amount

For the 2017-2018 academic year, the Fund will provide benefits which cover 100% instructional and student fee charges at public colleges and universities and \$7,044 per year at private (non-profit and for-profit) post-secondary institutions. As required in statute, the private award amount is derived from the prior year's average public award amount.

Influence of other Tuition Specific/Student Fees Aid

OSO funds are available to be used toward tuition and student fees. Student fees are defined as general fees, course fees, and special fees.

For students receiving any tuition/ student fees-specific aid, a simple calculation should be performed to determine final OSO eligibility. This other tuition/ fees-specific aid must be applied prior to the OSO award. Tuition/student fees minus tuition/student fees- specific aid equals OSO eligibility.

Study Abroad

Home schools need to have paperwork that shows the course(s) being taken, tuition charges at the study abroad institution (if not recorded on transcript and account statement), and that funds were used for tuition and student fees only. The total expense of tuition and fee charges must not be more than the cost of attending the home institution during that term. The home school must keep the above documentation in case of an audit.

Utilization

Students must be Ohio residents and may receive tuition waivers for a maximum of 15 quarters or 10 semesters of full-time or part-time undergraduate study. Part-time status is considered anything less than 12 credit hours.

Certification

Institutions are sent a certification roster and certification of eligibility form for each term in the academic year which must be reviewed, completed, and returned to the Program Manager. Please keep in mind that schools must wait a *minimum* of 15 days after the start of the term before funds can be requested.

TO SUMMARIZE, FOR THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR, THE AMOUNT OF THE SAFETY OFFICERS COLLEGE MEMORIAL FUND IS:

PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:	100% OF TUITION/STUDENT FEES
PRIVATE (NON-PROFIT OR FOR-PROFIT):	\$7,044* (ANNUAL AWARD)
<i>*\$3,522 per semester</i>	<i>OR *\$2,348 per quarter</i>

Financial aid personnel should direct questions to Ramah Church, Program Manager, at 614.752-9528 or rchurch@highered.ohio.gov