

**POAT**  
**Police Officer Assistance Trust Educational Assistance Bylaws**

**ARTICLE VI**

**Educational Assistance**

**Section 1.** Educational Assistance is created exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and its funds shall be utilized to provide scholarship assistance to the spouses and/or dependent children of certified law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in Miami-Dade County, Florida; or the spouses and/or dependent children of certified law enforcement officers disabled in the line of duty in Miami-Dade County, Florida, determined on an individual basis by the Board of Trustees. Funds shall be utilized in pursuing an education at a vocational-technical school or in pursuing undergraduate studies at a college or university located within the continental United States. To be eligible for scholarship assistance under the Trust a person must:

- a) Be the child or spouse of a sworn full-time certified law enforcement officer as defined in Article V, Section 2, Subsection a.
- b) In the case of a child, shall not have graduated from high school prior to May 1, 1989.
- c) In the case of a child, shall become and maintain, throughout each school term, the status of a full-time student as defined by the school attended.
- d) Maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a four point scale, or its equivalent, while in the vocational-technical school, college, or university being attended.
- e) In the case of a child, shall be under the age of 26 years old.

**Section 2.** Persons eligible under the above mentioned criteria should request an application for scholarship assistance. Upon completion of the application it should be forwarded to the Educational Committee for review. Upon review of the application a recommendation shall be made to the Board of Trustees by the Educational Committee.

**Section 3.** Upon approval of the request by the Board of Trustees, assistance shall be granted according to the following guidelines:

- a) All vocational-technical schools, colleges, and universities must be accredited.
- b) For four-year undergraduate studies assistance up to \$3000 per semester,

quarter, or term shall be considered to cover tuition costs, housing, lab fees, books, etc.

c) For two-year junior college studies assistance up to \$1500 per semester, quarter, or term shall be considered to cover tuition costs, housing, lab fees, books, etc.

d) For vocational or technical training assistance will be determined on an individual basis but will not exceed the limits established under the junior college criteria.

e) For postgraduate studies assistance up to \$5000 per semester, quarter, or term shall be considered to cover tuition costs, housing, lab fees, books, etc. Postgraduate assistance shall not exceed a maximum of four years. Eligibility will be determined on an individual basis by the Board of Trustees.

f) In cases where tuition is waived by the school or institute or paid for by other resources (scholarship, grant, philanthropic individual) the Board of Trustees shall have the ability to award assistance consistent with the levels shown above.

g) Amounts shall follow the tuition criteria established for the applicable type of educational institution chosen by the applicant.

Section 4. Any and all tuition payments from the Trust shall be made directly to the educational institution or in the case of necessary expenses, payments shall be made to the applicant upon producing receipts.

Section 5. Continuation of payments will be based upon receipt of the grade report form from the applicant. This form is to verify both full-time status, in the case of a child, and the grade point average.