



GEORGIA STATE PUBLIC OFFICERS INDEMNIFICATION PROGRAM NOTICE TO POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE PEACE OFFICERS

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OVERVIEW

The State of Georgia provides a financial benefit to designated peace officers who are disabled or killed in the line of duty. The Georgia Department of Administrative Services (“DOAS”) administers the Georgia State Public Officers Indemnification Program on behalf of the state pursuant to the authority provided in Article 5 of Chapter 9 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia. The statute is made up of two parts: Part 1 of the Act addresses death as well as partial permanent disability and total permanent disability; Part 2 addresses the Supplemental Indemnification Benefit. Applicants for Part 1 have two (2) years from the date of the injury to apply for benefits. Applicants for Part 2 have 60 calendar days from the date of injury to apply for the benefits.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 34-9-26(b), when the Georgia State Board of Workers’ Compensation (“SBWC”) has a reasonable cause to believe that an injured worker is an eligible peace officer as defined in subsection (a) of O.C.G.A. § 34-9-26, the Board shall notify DOAS and the injured worker.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 35-1-24(b), when each law enforcement agency of the state has reasonable cause to believe that an injured worker is an eligible peace officer as defined

in subsection (a), O.C.G.A. § 35-1-24, the agency shall notify the injured worker of the existence of the indemnification program.

These Rules are enacted under the authority of O.C.G.A. § 34-9-26 and O.C.G.A. § 35-1-24 to provide a process and procedure to give notice of the potential for benefit eligibility to peace officers as defined in subsection (a) of O.C.G.A. § 34-9-26 and O.C.G.A. § 35-1-24.

References

- O.C.G.A. § 45-9-80, et seq. – Georgia State Indemnification Fund
- O.C.G.A. § 45-9-86 – Application for Indemnification (Part 1)
- O.C.G.A. § 45-9-100 – Purpose of Supplemental Benefits (Part 2)
- O.C.G.A. § 45-9-103 – Submission of Application (Part 2)
- O.C.G.A. § 34-9-26 – Required Notice Regarding Injured Peace Officers
- O.C.G.A. § 35-1-24 – Peace Officers Eligible for Indemnification or Disability Compensation; Notifications

Policy

1. SBWC Notice to Potentially Eligible Peace Officers

- 1-1 All injured workers with an injury date less than two years old who SBWC identify as potentially qualified peace officers, as defined in O.C.G.A. 34-9-26(a), shall be provided with written notice from the SBWC.
- 1-2 Each notice shall explain what the Indemnification Program is, the benefits it provides, and direct the injured worker to the DOAS Risk Management website, the Indemnification Application, and the DOAS Brochure.
- 1-3 The SBWC will make all efforts to send the notice promptly after receiving a WC-1 and/or WC-14 Notice of Claim filing for a potentially eligible injured worker.
- 1-4 The SBWC will make efforts to maintain a log of all injured workers to whom a notice regarding potential eligibility for the Indemnification Program listing the injured worker's name, address, date, and method of delivery used to send the notice to the injured worker.

2. SBWC Notice to DOAS

- 2-1 The SBWC will provide DOAS with the name, address, and the date notice was sent to the injured worker from the SBWC within ten (10) calendar days of sending their written notification to the injured worker.
- 2-2 Notices to DOAS from the SBWC must be sent to the following email address: Indemnification@doas.ga.gov.

3. Law Enforcement Agency Notification to Potentially Eligible Peace Officer

- 3-1 All injured workers with an injury date of July 1, 2025, or after, identified by law enforcement agency as potentially qualifying as a peace officer as defined in O.C.G.A. 34-9-26(a) shall be provided with a written notice from the law enforcement agency.
- 3-2 The written notice shall be sent via US Mail advising the injured worker of the potential eligibility for the Indemnification Program.
- 3-3 Each mailing shall include a written notice that explains what the Indemnification Program is, the benefits it provides, and directs the injured worker to the DOAS website, as well as a copy of the Indemnification Application and DOAS Brochure.
- 3-4 Each mailing must be sent within ten (10) calendar days of the workers suffering an injury that may reasonably cause such workers to suffer a permanent or temporary disability.

4. DOAS Notice to Potentially Eligible Peace Officers

- 4-1 DOAS will send a letter, application, and brochure to all potentially eligible peace officers within 15 days of receipt of the notification from the SBWC.
- 4-2 DOAS notices will be sent via U.S. Regular and Certified Mail.
- 4-2 DOAS will set up a report only ("RPO") claim file in its claim system to document notices received by SBWC and notice mailings sent out by DOAS.

Revision History

These Rules were published on December 18, 2025, and may be revised as necessary.

Version	Date
1.0	December 18, 2025