

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

or her surviving spouse is entitled to benefits equal to 50 percent of the benefits earned by the deceased volunteer. These benefits shall terminate upon death or remarriage. A qualified volunteer is defined as one who has completed 25 years of certified service, OR IS QUALIFIED TO RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER THIS ACT.

(5) [In the event that a qualified volunteer dies, a burial benefit up to \$2,500 shall be payable.] WHEN A QUALIFIED VOLUNTEER DIES, AFTER JANUARY 1, 1974, A BURIAL BENEFIT OF \$2,500 SHALL BE PAID TO THE SURVIVING SPOUSE, AND IF THERE IS NO SURVIVING SPOUSE TO THE ESTATE OF THE DECEDENT. A QUALIFIED VOLUNTEER IS DEFINED AS ONE WHO HAS COMPLETED 25 YEARS OF SERVICE OR IS QUALIFIED TO RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER THIS SECTION.

(6) In the event that any active volunteer fireman or squadsman (herein defined as one who has at least two years of qualifying service in the five preceding years) attains the age of 70 years and fails to achieve the required 25 years of service, then the volunteer is entitled to a monthly benefit of [the number of years of certified service completed multiplied by \$4. These benefits shall be payable in the normal manner.] .0004 OF THE STARTING ANNUAL SALARY OF A CAREER FIREFIGHTER MULTIPLIED BY THE NUMBER OF YEARS OF CERTIFIED SERVICE COMPLETED. PAYMENTS WILL BEGIN ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE FIRST MONTH FOLLOWING ELIGIBILITY.

[ (7) An annual cost of living review shall be made by the County Council of Prince George's County to adjust the benefits provided under Section (b) to reflect the then current cost of living index. The adjustment shall increase or decrease the benefits as necessary to maintain comparable purchasing value of this program. Revised or reviewed benefits shall commence on July 1, of the year.]

(c) Funding.

The Fire [Department] COMMISSION will annually submit with [its budget] THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGETS a request for funds to pay ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND TO PAY those volunteer members who are eligible or will become eligible, for the program. The request shall identify by name each member to receive payment and specify the number of months for which payment will be made to that individual during the fiscal year, if for less than a full year.

(d) Administration.

The program shall be administered by the Prince George's County [Fire Chief] DIRECTOR OF FINANCE in