

2012 Kansas Statutes

40-1709. Firefighter health insurance; continuation. (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), whenever a municipality provides for the payment of premiums for any health benefit plan for its firefighters, it shall pay premiums for the continuation of coverage under COBRA for the surviving spouse and dependent children of a firefighter who dies in the line of duty. Premiums for continuation of coverage under COBRA shall be paid for 18 months.

(2) A municipality may not be required to pay the premiums described in paragraph (1) for a surviving spouse:

(A) On or after the end of the 18th calendar month after the date of death of the deceased firefighter;

(B) upon the remarriage of the deceased firefighter's surviving spouse; or

(C) upon the deceased firefighter's surviving spouse reaching the age of 65.

(3) An individual is not a dependent child of a deceased firefighter for the purposes of paragraph (1) after such individual reaches the age of 18 years unless such individual is a:

(A) Full-time student in an accredited high school; or

(B) full-time student in a postsecondary educational institution, except that this subparagraph shall not apply to such an individual after the close of the calendar year in which the individual reaches the age of 24 as long as such individual continues to maintain such status as a full-time student.

(b) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Firefighter" means an actual member of an organized fire department, of a municipality, whether regular or volunteer.

(2) "Health benefit plan" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in K.S.A. 40-4602, and amendments thereto.

(3) "Municipality" means city, county or township.

(4) "Postsecondary educational institution" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in K.S.A. 74-3201b, and amendments thereto.

History: L. 2012, ch. 152, § 1; July 1.