



State of New Jersey • Department of the Treasury

DIVISION OF PENSIONS & BENEFITS — RETIREMENT SECTION

P.O. Box 295, Trenton, NJ 08625-0295

APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY-WORKER'S SURVIVORS PENSION (VESP)

INSTRUCTIONS

Part I and **Part II** are to be completed by the designated representative of the municipality. Include names of dependent children even if spouse is living. See reverse side for eligibility criteria and definitions of a dependent.

Part III must be completed and signed by the municipality's Certifying Officer.

PART I — VOLUNTEER WORKER INFORMATION

Volunteer's Name _____
Last First MI

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth / / Date of Death / /
MM DD YYYY MM DD YYYY

Volunteer Title/Position _____

Name of Volunteer Company or Squad _____

PART II — SURVIVOR INFORMATION

Name of Spouse _____
Last First MI

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth / /
MM DD YYYY

Address _____ Phone () _____
Street Area Code

City State Zip Code

Dependent Children *(Must be disabled or under age 24)*

1. Child's Name _____ In School? Yes No
Last First MI

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth / /
MM DD YYYY

2. Child's Name _____ In School? Yes No
Last First MI

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth / /
MM DD YYYY

3. Child's Name _____ In School? Yes No
Last First MI

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth / /
MM DD YYYY

(Attach separate sheet to list additional children)

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(continued)**Dependent Parents** (If no dependent spouse or children)1. Parent's Name _____
Last First MI

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth MM / DD / YYYY

2. Parent's Name _____
Last First MI

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth MM / DD / YYYY

PART III — CERTIFICATION OF MUNICIPALITY (See "Special Instructions" below)

Name of Municipality _____ PERS Location Number _____

Certifying Officer _____ Phone (_____) _____
Area Code

Signature _____ Date MM / DD / YYYY

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EMPLOYERS

If your municipality has had a volunteer emergency-worker die while performing volunteer duties since January 1, 2000, and that volunteer has one or more survivors meeting the criteria of Chapter 134, P.L. 2002 described below, you should:

1. Confirm the eligibility of the survivor(s) for a VESP and have the municipal governing body adopt a resolution certifying to that eligibility.
2. Have this *Application for Volunteer Emergency-Worker's Survivors Pension* completed and certified.
3. The Division of Pensions and Benefits also requires that the municipality forward the documentation required to certify the eligibility for VESP benefits. This would include:
 - a) the police and/or accident report and the death certificate — **required in all cases;**
 - b) the marriage certificate — **required if there is a surviving spouse;**
 - c) birth certificates — **required for all dependent children;**
 - d) school enrollment records for dependent children over 18 — **only required if there is no surviving spouse;**
 - e) evidence of disability for dependent children — **only required if there is no surviving spouse;**
 - f) financial evidence of dependency for dependent parent(s) — **only required if there is no surviving spouse or dependent children.**
4. Forward the resolution, this completed application, and the documents identified in item 3, above, to the Division within ten days of the resolution's adoption to: **VESP, Division of Pensions and Benefits, PO Box 295, Trenton, NJ 08625-0295.**

NOTE: Do not delay the submission of the resolution if this application or the collection of other required documentation has not been completed when the resolution is due at the Division of Pensions and Benefits.

ELIGIBILITY FOR VESP BENEFITS

Chapter 134, P.L. 2002, establishes a pension for the survivors of certain volunteer emergency workers who die in the performance of volunteer duties on or after January 1, 2000. The volunteer must have been a member of a duly incorporated voluntary fire company, first aid and emergency, or ambulance or rescue squad.

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Survivors (dependents) of a volunteer firefighter, first aid worker, rescue squad worker, or emergency medical technician include:

- **A widow or widower** (who has not subsequently remarried);
- **Unmarried children** (a) under the age of 18; (b) age 18 years of age or older while enrolled in a secondary school; (c) under the age of 24 and enrolled in a degree program at an institution of higher education for at least 12 credit hours each semester; or (d) a disabled child at any age who is incapable of self-support due to the disability;
- **A widow or widower** (who has not subsequently remarried);
- **Dependent parents** (if there is no widow, widower, or eligible dependent children) who received at least half of their support from the emergency worker during the twelve months preceding the death.

NOTE: If a survivor is also eligible for a monthly pension benefit due to the voluntary emergency worker's membership in a New Jersey State-administered retirement system on the basis of other employment, that survivor is not also eligible for the VESP.