Date: August 28, 1996
To: Presidents
From: Barry Munitz
Chancellor
Subject: Survivor Benefits - CSU, Systemwide - Executive Order No. 662

I am transmitting to you a copy of Executive Order No. 662 which establishes survivor benefits for spouses and dependents of CSU employees whose deaths occurred as a result of work-related injuries and for which the decedents were not at fault.

In accordance with the policy of The California State University, the campus President has the responsibility for implementing Executive Orders, where applicable, and for maintaining the campus repository and index for all Executive Orders.

Attachment

Distribution: Executive Vice Chancellor
Vice Chancellors
Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs
Vice Presidents, Administration
Vice Presidents/Deans of Students
Associate Vice Presidents/Deans, Faculty Affairs
Business Managers
Chair, Statewide Academic Senate
Personnel Directors
Employee Relations Designees
Executive Order No. 662

Title: Survivor Benefits

Effective Date: August 28, 1996

Supersedes: No Previous Executive Order

This Executive Order is issued pursuant to Education Code Sections 89030, 89500, 89708, and 89709, delegated in Section 42700(n) of Title 5, California Code of Regulations and Section 6(c), (i), (k), and (l) of Chapter III of the Standing Orders of the Board of Trustees, and Trustees Resolution No. RFIN 05-96-06.

Upon application and with the recommendation of the campus President, student fee waivers are hereby authorized, to the extent permitted by law, regulation, and bonding obligations, for surviving spouses and dependent children of California State University employees who have died in the course of employment and whose deaths are the result of severe work-related injuries subject to the exclusions noted below.

The conditions for this authorization include:

A. Eligibility. The surviving spouse and any dependent child of a CSU employee, without respect to time base, may be eligible for this educational benefit. This policy may also apply to the surviving spouse and/or dependent children of CSU volunteer employees.

B. Definitions. "Spouse," as used in this policy, refers to the legal spouse of an employee as of the date of the employee's death. "Dependent child" is defined here in the same manner as that term is used for other CSU benefit programs, namely, one who, as of the date of an employee's death, is: (1) an employee's child or stepchild under age 23 who has never been married; (2) a child living with an employee in a parent-child relationship who is economically dependent upon the employee, under age 23 and has never been married; (3) an employee's child or stepchild age 23 or above who is incapable of self-support due to a disability which existed prior to age 23.

C. Work-Related Death. A work-related death of an employee, for the purpose of this policy, is a death resulting from severe physical injury arising during an individual's performance of the duties assigned to him or her CSU position. An employee's suicide or intentionally self-inflicted injury leading to death will not be deemed a work-related death for the purpose of this policy. An employee's death while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs or under circumstances where the employee's gross negligence or malicious act is responsible for the injury will also not be deemed a work-related death for the purpose of this policy.

D. Benefits. Eligible spouses and dependent children may enroll in the CSU campus of their choice, on either a graduate or undergraduate level, with all fees waived or reduced to the maximum extent allowed by law, contract, bonding provision, and regulation, provided the individual meets CSU, campus, and program admissions requirements. Fees may be waived for all courses in state-supported programs as well as all courses in self-supporting programs which yield academic credit toward completion of a CSU degree. Access to CSU institutions on a fee-waiver basis is a
lifetime benefit for a surviving spouse, and a benefit available to each child who was dependent as of the date of a deceased employee’s death until the child reaches the age of 27. Both spouses and children may use their fee waiver benefits for either part-time or full-time enrollment, and are not limited regarding the number of classes or units for which they may use these benefits each term. Charges for campus housing and parking are not covered by this authorization.

E. Benefit Administration. The Chancellor or designee is responsible for administering the CSU Fee Waiver Benefit for Surviving Spouses and Dependent Children. In case of dispute, the Chancellor of The California State University, or the Chancellor’s designee, will make the final determination on eligibility and provisions of the benefit including deciding whether an employee’s death is work-related for the purpose of this policy. Questions regarding this policy may be directed to the systemwide Human Resources Office at (310) 985-2694.

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Barry Munitz, Chancellor

August 28, 1996