



<p>1. What is the Barry Grunow Act?</p>	<p>The Barry Grunow Act (act) provides designated benefits for any Florida teacher or school-based administrator who is killed while engaged in the performance of teaching or school administrator duties.</p> <p>The act provides four benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) \$75,000 to the beneficiary or heirs of a decedent teacher or administrator;(2) \$1,000 to be paid toward the funeral and burial expenses of such teacher or administrator;(3) Payment of health insurance premiums for the spouse and dependent children of the decedent teacher or administrator; and(4) Waiver of any state matriculation and tuition fees for the teacher's or administrator's dependent children admitted to a publicly funded vocational-technical school, community college, or university.
<p>2. Who was Barry Grunow?</p>	<p>Barry Grunow was a Lake Worth (Florida) Middle School teacher who was shot and killed by a student just outside his classroom, on the last day of school (May 26, 2000).</p>
<p>3. Who is eligible for these benefits?</p>	<p>Any individual in a position defined as instructional personnel under s. 228.041, F.S., is eligible. Instructional personnel include classroom teachers, guidance counselors, school psychologists, librarians, or teachers aides. In addition, school-based (as opposed to those based at the district or elsewhere) administrators are eligible.</p>
<p>4. Under what circumstances are benefits triggered?</p>	<p>The benefits in the bill are triggered when a teacher or school-based administrator is killed as a result of an unlawful and intentional act, provided that it was an act of violence inflicted by another person and that it occurs while the teacher or administrator is engaged in his or her teaching or school administrative duties, or because he or she is a teacher or school administrator.</p> <p>In other words, the act covers any "on the job" intentional killing, or any killing while not on the job, if the killing were BECAUSE the person is a teacher or school administrator (e.g., "stalking").</p>

The Barry Grunow Act

5. Prior to the enactment of the Barry Grunow Act, what special death benefits were available for the spouse of a teacher killed in the line of duty?	The spouse of <i>any</i> member of the Florida Retirement System, in which teachers participate, killed in the line of duty is paid one-half the salary of the deceased, or the member's current retirement benefit for life, whichever he or she chooses. The special death benefits provided in the Barry Grunow Act are in addition to these Florida Retirement System benefits.
6. How much funding has been provided?	\$165,000 was provided in the 2001-2002 GAA.
7. What are the applicable statutes?	Section 112.1915, F.S. --Teacher and school administrator death benefits. 2001-2002 General Appropriations Act, S.A. 138B
8. Where can I get additional information?	Florida Department of Education Division of Public Schools (850) 488-2601 www.firn.edu/doe The Florida House of Representatives Committee on General Education (850) 414-9780