



# Funeral Support Payment





**Funeral Support Payment** is a payment to help towards the costs of a funeral.

You may be eligible for Funeral Support Payment if you meet these criteria:

- You live in Scotland.
- You or your partner are getting certain benefits or tax credits.
- The person who died lived in the UK.
- The funeral is being held in the UK or, in some instances, the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland.



- You are applying after the person has died, up to 6 months after the funeral. If you could not apply within 6 months of the funeral because of the disruption caused by coronavirus, we'll accept your application as on time.
- You or your partner are responsible for the funeral.
- It is reasonable for you or your partner to accept responsibility for the funeral costs.

The certain benefits or tax credits include:



- Universal Credit (UC).
- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Pension Credit.
- Housing Benefit.
- Child Tax Credit (CTC).
- Disability or severe disability element of Working Tax Credit.

It's normally reasonable for the nearest relative of the person who died to pay for the funeral costs. The nearest relative could be a:



- Partner.
- Child.
- Parent.
- Sibling.



If you or your partner are not the nearest relative, you'll need to explain to us why it's reasonable to have accepted responsibility.



There is an eligibility checker in the online and paper versions of the application form.



Funeral Support Payment is a part payment. It will cover some, but likely not all, of the funeral costs. This depends on funeral choices and varying fees for services across Scotland.



If you're eligible, the amount you will receive will depend on:

- What you have claimed.
- What funds were left by the person who died.

Funeral Support Payment can cover:

- Burial and cremation costs.
- A flat rate for any other expenses - £1257.75 for most applications and £153.50 if the person who died made provision for their funeral through a funeral plan.
- Some travel costs.
- Document costs.
- Medical costs.





1 person can claim Funeral Support Payment per funeral.



You can find out more and apply online at **mygov.scot/funeral-support-payment**. You can apply in person, over the phone or ask for a paper application form by calling Social Security Scotland free on **0800 182 2222**.



Before applying for Funeral Support Payment, you should register the death or stillbirth. You should also give the funeral director (if you have one) consent to speak with us about your application. Doing this will minimise the time it takes to process your application.

There are 2 application forms:

- A child application.
- An adult application.



The 2 forms are clearly marked in the top right-hand corner. The child application has fewer questions.

You should receive a decision within 10 working days of us receiving:



- A completed application form.
- All supporting evidence that is required.

The payment will follow shortly after.

You may be told to send us copies of certificates, receipts or bills when applying. You'll need to send us these before we can finish checking your application.







You can send us this evidence online at **[mygov.scot/uploading-your-documents](https://mygov.scot/uploading-your-documents)**. Or you will be sent a pre-paid envelopes you should return to us with the evidence.

Funeral Support Payment is not a loan. It does not need to be paid back to Social Security Scotland. If the person who died left financial assets, we will recover the payment from their estate.



Funeral Support Payment will be paid into your chosen financial account or direct to the funeral director. Paying direct to the funeral director is usually someone's preferred choice, but we'll need your permission to do this.



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**[chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot](https://chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot)**



British Sign Language users can  
contact us at [contactscotland-bsl.org](https://contactscotland-bsl.org)



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