



# COVID-19 PANDEMIC

## FEMA FUNERAL BENEFITS

If a family member died of COVID-19, FEMA may be able to cover your funeral expenses!

You have to meet these qualifications:

- The person must have died in the United States. This includes the District of Columbia and other US territories.
- The death certificate must say the death was from COVID-19.
- The person who applies must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.
- The funeral expenses must be after January 20, 2020.
- The person who died does not have to be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.
- If more than one person paid for the funeral, then everyone should apply as co-applicants. Do not make different applications.

Please make sure to keep receipts and papers about the funeral. These can include:

- **An official death certificate.** It must say that the death was from COVID-19, and that the person died in the United States or its territories.
- **Documents from the funeral provider.** These include receipts, contracts, and other documents. They need to have the following information:
  - The name of the applicant.
  - The name of the deceased.
  - The dollar amounts of any funeral expenses.
  - The date the expenses happened.
- **Documentation of other funds you got to pay for the funeral.** FEMA is not able to provide duplicate benefits. It cannot pay for expenses that another group has already paid. This includes money from charities, GoFundMe, and insurance policies.

Applications open April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and there is currently no deadline. You can only apply by phone. Call 844-684-6333 (TTY: 800-462-7585) between 8 am and 8 pm, US Central Time. You cannot apply online. You can apply for help with multiple funerals with one application.

**1-800-733-8394 | [www.LoneStarLegal.org](http://www.LoneStarLegal.org)**



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When you apply, FEMA will ask you whether you would like a check mailed to you, or if you would like to set up direct deposit into a bank account.

## FAQ

### 1. How much will FEMA cover under COVID-19 Funeral Assistance?

- \$9,000 per funeral.
- \$35,500 per application, per state/district/territory.

### 2. What are some of the things FEMA will cover under COVID-19 Funeral Assistance?

- Transportation for up to 2 people to identify the deceased.
- Transporting the deceased.
- Buying a casket or urn.
- Paying for a burial plot or cremation niche.
- Buying a gravestone.
- Paying a minister to hold the funeral.
- Paying for other parts of the funeral ceremony.
- Paying for funeral home services.
- Costs of cremation or burial.
- Paying for multiple death certificates.
- Additional expenses required by state or local law.

\*this list only shows the most common expenses.

### 3. I'm under 18, and I had to pay for a parent's funeral myself. Can I apply?

Yes. Children under 18 who paid for a funeral, can apply for benefits.

### 4. My parents had to bury a relative, but aren't eligible. I'm eligible but I'm under 18. Can I apply on their behalf?

No. Only the people who actually paid for the funeral can apply. If you are under 18 and didn't pay for the funeral, you can't apply for benefits.

### 5. I recently got FEMA benefits for another disaster. Can I still get funeral benefits?

Funeral benefits are separate from other disaster benefits. If you received FEMA benefits for Winter Storm Uri (the 2021 Texas Ice Storm) or Hurricanes Harvey or Imelda, you can still apply for funeral benefits.

### 6. What's the deadline to apply?

Currently, FEMA has not set a deadline.

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