

## COVID-19 Funeral Assistance

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. TEMA is encouraging families who have lost a loved one to apply for FEMA [COVID-19 Funeral Assistance](#) to ease some financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

### **How to Apply**

A dedicated toll-free phone number to complete a COVID-19 Funeral Assistance application with help from FEMA's representatives is available.

### **COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line Number**

844-684-6333 | TTY: 800-462-7585

### **Hours of Operation:**

Monday - Friday

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time

The application process with FEMA should take about 20 minutes and multi-lingual services are available. FEMA is not accepting online applications for the benefit, so a call to FEMA's COVID-19 funeral assistance phone number is necessary to register and begin the process.

### **Who is Eligible?**

To be eligible for funeral assistance, you must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.
- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.

If you had COVID-19 funeral expenses, we encourage you to keep and gather documentation. Types of information should include:

- **An official death certificate** that attributes the death directly or indirectly to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- **Funeral expenses documents** (receipts, funeral home contract, etc.) that includes the applicant's name, the deceased person's name, the amount of funeral expenses, and the dates the funeral expenses happened.
- **Proof of funds received from other sources** specifically for use toward funeral costs. We are not able to duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, government agencies, or other sources.

### **How Funds Are Received**

If you are eligible for funeral assistance you will receive a check by mail, or funds by direct deposit, depending on which option you choose when you apply for assistance.

An applicant may apply for multiple deceased individuals with a maximum allowable amount of \$9,000 per funeral, and a maximum of \$35,500 per application.

### **Social Media**

- Did you lose someone from COVID-19? FEMA is accepting applications for the Funeral Assistance Program. Visit the FAQ page today to check the eligibility requirements in order to receive financial help. Learn more: [fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance#eligible](https://fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance#eligible)
- Beware of scams! The Funeral Assistance Program has controls in place to mitigate fraudulent activity. We will not contact anyone until they have called us or have applied for assistance. If you are a victim of fraud, report it to our Disaster Fraud Hotline at 1-866-720-5721.
- Families who lost loved ones to COVID-19 can now get help with funeral expenses from @fema. To learn more, visit: [fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance](https://fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance)
- Applying for our Funeral Assistance program? You can apply 9 A.M. - 9 P.M. Eastern Time, Monday-Friday, by calling 844-684-6333 | TTY: 800-462-7585. Multilingual services will be available. Keep in mind there is no deadline to apply.



### Resources

Get answers to frequently asked questions about the application process on our [Funeral Assistance FAQ page](#).

Providing Financial Assistance for COVID-19-Related Funeral Expenses: [Video](#).

### Graphics

## Did you pay funeral cost after losing someone due to COVID-19?



If so, you may be eligible to receive financial assistance for funeral expenses incurred after Jan. 20, 2020.

For more information: [fema.gov/funeral-assistance](https://fema.gov/funeral-assistance)  
Apply by calling: 844-684-6333 | TTY: 800-462-7585  
Monday - Friday | 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time



### Report Fraud or Scams

✉ [Disaster@leo.gov](mailto:Disaster@leo.gov)  
☎ National Center for Disaster  
Fraud Hotline at: 866-720-5721  
☎ 800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585)

## Beware Of Common Fraud And Scams

*FEMA representatives and inspectors will always have an official identification badge. Always ask to see I.D.*

*FEMA representatives never charge you a fee or ask for any payment.*

*Do not give out your SSN or banking information unless you are registering with a **verified FEMA representative**. You will be asked to provide this information **only when first registering with FEMA**.*



**Did you pay funeral costs after losing someone due to COVID-19?**

**We may be able to help with funeral assistance.**



**Learn more at [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov)  
or call (844) 684-6333  
to get started.**

## **Funeral Assistance Eligibility**

To be eligible for funeral assistance, you must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.
- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.

For more information: [fema.gov/funeral-assistance](https://www.fema.gov/funeral-assistance)  
Apply by calling: 844-684-6333 | TTY: 800-462-7585  
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## **Funeral Assistance Frequently Asked Questions**

[fema.gov/funeral-assistance/faq](https://www.fema.gov/funeral-assistance/faq)



Questions regarding this toolkit can be sent to [Dean Flener](#) or [Maggie Hannan](#).