

Social Development Funeral Benefit



Need help with the funeral expenses of a family member?

Am I eligible?

Eligibility is based on the financial situation of:

- the deceased's estate; and
- the family (sister, brother, parent, child, grandparent, spouse and common-law spouse) who are part of the deceased's household.

Eligibility assessment

This is where we determine the ability of the deceased's estate, or family members within the household, to pay for the funeral expenses.

Social Development will look at the household's income (earnings, allowances, pensions, revenue from business and investments, etc.) and expenses, including funeral costs.

Family members who are not part of the household will be asked if they can contribute toward the cost of the funeral.

HOW TO?

1. Telephone the nearest Social Development office within 15 days of the deceased's passing.

During that 15- to 30-minute call, a representative will conduct an initial assessment of your application. Subject to the results of the first evaluation, the representative will schedule an appointment at the nearest regional office.

Social Development regional offices:

Fredericton	1-866-444-8838
Moncton	1-866-426-5191
Saint John	1-866-441-4340
Edmundston	1-866-441-4249
Restigouche	1-866-441-4245
Chaleur	1-866-441-4341
Miramichi	1-866-441-4246
Acadian Peninsula	1-866-441-4149

2. At your appointment, bring all required information and documentation. You will need to provide all documentation to Social Development within 15 days of your appointment.

The Department of Social Development can help.

Once you have done this, Social Development will process your application for approval or refusal.

You will need to have:

- Name, date of birth, social insurance number, Medicare number and last address of the deceased.
- Verification of income — last deposit for the deceased will be required.
- Bank information — trust accounts, insurance, all assets (homes, vehicles) and individual(s) who will acquire them upon death.
- Eligibility to the CPP death benefit — must be signed **over** to the department.
- Copy of the will if one exists.
- Copy of the obituary.
- Coverage under Veterans Affairs Canada — Last Post Fund if eligible.
- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of all immediate family members.
- Proof of income for all family members who are part of the household (copy of income tax notice of assessment or pay stubs).

Please note:

- *Requests for assistance with funerals are assessed on a case-by-case basis.*
- *Social Development will only cover the cost for a basic funeral.*
- *For unpaid pre-arranged funerals, Social Development will only consider the difference between the deposited amounts and the maximum amount available under the Funeral Benefit.*
- *Financial information provided to Social Development will be verified.*

For additional information, please visit our website
www.gnb.ca/socialdevelopment