

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for Funeral AssistanceSA you must be able to prove all of the following:

- ✓ the deceased received a pension or a benefit, or was a low income recipient
- ✓ the deceased's estate and death benefits are estimated to be valued at less than \$3,000 when liquidated (including their house, personal property, and shares)
- ✓ the deceased's immediate relatives* receive a pension or benefit, or are low income recipients
- ✓ the deceased's immediate relatives do not have enough funds to cover the funeral expenses (less than \$3,000 in accessible funds) and have exhausted all options to raise funds or obtain credit.
- ✓ immediate relatives must not own their own homes or must show evidence that they cannot borrow against equity in their home to pay for the funeral.

**Immediate relatives are the spouse, parents, and adult children (not siblings, for example: a brother or sister).*

Contact details

- ☎ 1300 762 577
- @ FuneralAssistanceSA@sa.gov.au
- ✉ Funeral AssistanceSA
Reply Paid 292, Adelaide SA 5001
(no postage stamp required)
- 💻 sa.gov.au/concessions

Social media

f t i / HumanServicesSA

Feedback

- DHS Client Feedback
- 💻 dhs.sa.gov.au/feedback
- ✉ GPO Box 292 Adelaide SA 5001



Government of
South Australia



human
services

Funeral AssistanceSA

Funeral AssistanceSA

If you have recently experienced the death of a family member or friend who resided in South Australia, and have exhausted all options to raise funds or obtain credit, you may be eligible for funeral assistance, including:

- a weekday cremation service at a church or chapel approved by Funeral AssistanceSA, or a direct cremation if preferred
- a weekday burial (where culturally or religiously required)
- funeral director's fee
- crematorium fees
- cemetery fees
- a basic coffin
- hearse
- religious minister or celebrant's fee
- fees and charges for all legally required permits (not death certificate).

Funeral AssistanceSA will cover the cost of services that are legally necessary or specifically authorised under the program. The deceased's family or friends may pay for additional extras (e.g. flowers, memorial book, etc).

Two types of assistance are available:

Full contract funeral

If you have not already contracted a private funeral director, you may be eligible for full contract funeral assistance. This provides a basic, dignified funeral. If your application is successful, you will be contacted by Funeral AssistanceSA's nominated funeral director, who will arrange a funeral for the deceased as soon as possible.

After-the-event assistance

If you have already contracted a private funeral director and there is an existing debt, you may be eligible for a grant of up to \$625, paid directly to the funeral director. To qualify, the funeral cost must be modest and you must have attempted to pay the debt. If a funeral account has been paid in full, no assistance can be provided.

Funeral locations

Services in Metropolitan Adelaide will be at a Funeral AssistanceSA approved chapel, church or cemetery.

Appropriate arrangements are made for the location of country and regional funerals.

Funeral AssistanceSA can cover the cost of transporting the deceased to the approved funeral location within South Australia, including returning deceased Aboriginal people to their homeland if culturally required.

Transportation must be authorised by Funeral AssistanceSA and arranged by the program's contracted funeral director.

Important information

To be eligible under Funeral AssistanceSA, you need to provide evidence of the income, assets and liabilities of the deceased and their immediate relatives and, where applicable, a copy of the deceased's will. If the family is estranged, a statutory declaration is required explaining the circumstances.

Funeral AssistanceSA will seek to recoup monies from the deceased's estate, except in cases where there are dependants of the deceased or a joint bank account. Funeral expenses legally have the first claim on an estate. Therefore, debts should not be paid until funeral expenses are met.