

Emergency And Special Assistance Programs

- The next of kin or any persons who may be chargeable with the burial expenses of the deceased, or the person taking responsibility for making the burial arrangements, and the Funeral Home Director must agree to this type of interment. The Funeral Home Director also must notify the Department prior to the burial that two or more bodies are placed in the same casket and state the reason given for this type of arrangement.

EXAMPLE: Two infants are buried in a casket. The Department will pay only the burial rate of \$1,250 and apply the maximum allowable payment of \$2,450.

d. Green Burial

The person who has made application for burial expenses may request that the deceased have a green burial. Green burials are allowed under the burial program policy. The applicant and Funeral Home Director must understand that the burial rate (\$1,250) and maximum allowable payment (\$2,450) will apply to green burials as well as any other interment plan.

Green Burials, sometimes also referred to as “natural burials”, are non-religious burials in which the body is prepared without chemical preservatives (or with non-toxic chemicals), buried in a biodegradable casket, and no outside container is used. This burial technique is an alternative to traditional burial with the focus being on less harm to the environment. It is likely green burials would occur on private property.

6. Application Submittal Deadline

Payment for burial expenses cannot be made unless the application form, DFA-BU-1, has been completed and the applicant found eligible for payment and the date of interment or cremation did not occur more than 30 days prior to the date of application.

C. BURIAL RATE

The burial rate of \$1,250 is the maximum amount that will be paid by the Department. This rate applies to all burials. Under no circumstances is this rate negotiable regardless of the specific burial plan desired by the applicant.

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D. DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES

The development of resources is a joint responsibility of both the Department and the Funeral Home Director. However, the Department's activity in the development of resources is limited to the estate of the deceased and only in situations when the estate is sufficiently valued to obtain up to the \$1,250 reimbursement to the Department.

The Funeral Home Director may develop resources from many different sources. Whenever the Funeral Home Director develops an amount of resources that exceeds the exempted resource amount of \$1,200 the Department will deduct this amount from the burial rate. When the Funeral Home Director receives resources which exceed the exempted resource amount after payment is received from the Department, the Department must be reimbursed by the Funeral Home Director.

EXAMPLE: The Funeral Home Director receives payment of resources on a burial for \$1,450.

\$1,450	Resources
<u>-\$1,200</u>	Exempted resource amount
\$ 250	Excess
\$1,250	Burial rate
<u>-\$ 250</u>	Excess
\$1,000	Amount of payment received by the Funeral Home Director from the Department.

\$1,450	Resources
+\$1,000	Burial payment
<u>\$2,450</u>	Maximum allowable payment (total payment received by the Funeral Home Director)

EXAMPLE: The Funeral Home Director receives payment of resources on a burial for \$500.

\$ 500	Resources
<u>-\$1,200</u>	Exempted resource amount
\$ 0	Excess
\$1,250	Burial rate
<u>-\$ 0</u>	Excess

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\$1,250	Amount of payment received by the Funeral Home Director from the Department.
\$ 500	Resources
<u>+\$1,250</u>	Burial payment
\$1,750	Total payment received by the Funeral Home Director

In this example, the Funeral Home Director is entitled to receive \$700 in additional resource before the maximum allowable payment of \$2,450 is reached. Assume further that the Funeral Home Director receives \$800 in additional resources after the burial payment from the Department was received. The Funeral Home Director must reimburse the Department \$100 because the maximum allowable payment was exceeded by \$100.