

Navajo Nation P.L. 93-638 Burial Assistance - Fact Sheet

What does the Navajo Nation Burial Assistance Program Provide?

The standard Navajo Nation P.L. 93-638 Burial Assistance provides up to \$2,500 towards the cost of a *Standard Funeral*, up to \$1,000 for a *Native Traditional Funeral*, or up to \$1,300 towards the cost of cremation. Payment is made directly to the contracted Funeral Home of choice, on behalf of an indigent person who meets the eligibility criteria according to the Bureau payment standards established by the Assistant Secretary— Indian Affairs.

Who administers the Burial Assistance Program?

The Navajo Family Assistance Services (NFAS) established under the Department for Self Reliance (DSR), within the Navajo Division of Social Services, currently administers the standard P. L. 93-638 Burial Assistance.

The Standard Eligibility Criteria:

Decedent must have been: a resident of the Navajo Nation, including Alamo and To'hajiilee, or in a Near Reservation Designated Community; an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe; indigent, to meet the income eligibility as provided by 25CFR, Section 20.100.

Applicant must: submit the application within 180 days following the death; submit all documents with matching names on their CIB, Social Security Card, and valid State ID/Driver's License, and must have all three documents upon submitting application. If applicant is unable to provide, the next of kin will need to become the applicant.

What to Bring When Applying:

- Applicant to provide:
 - Valid/Current Driver's License/Identification Card
 - Social Security Card
 - Certificate of Indian Blood
 - Donation List
 - Statement of Truth
- The following documents for the Decedent:
 - Valid/Current Driver's License/Identification Card
 - Social Security Card
 - Certificate of Indian Blood
 - Income Verification – Check Stubs/Current SSB/SSI/Retirement, Railroad Retirement Benefits (RRRB), etc.
 - Verification of residency – lease, utility bill, etc.

How to apply:

Burial or cremation services must be arranged through a funeral home under agreement with NFAS. See next page.

COVID-19

P.L. 93-638 Burial Assistance

The Navajo Nation received a one-time, non-recurring, non-base funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Recovery (CARES) Act funding for COVID 19 prevention, preparedness, and response to address the specific needs arising from the COVID 19 pandemic.

With the receipt of the CARES pandemic funds, the NFAS is assigned to administer the P.L. 93-638 COVID 19 Burial Assistance. The P.L. 93-638 COVID 19 Burial Assistance requires a separate policy for reporting and auditing purposes. This assistance is contingent upon availability of funds and will be used until exhausted or by May 18, 2021. Guidelines are available for download at www.nndsr.navajo-nsn.gov.

P.L. 93-638 COVID-19 Burial Assistance eligibility:

The Decedent must have expired as a result of the COVID 19 virus. Documentation that verifies that the decedent expired as a result of COVID19. The Decedent must have resided on the Navajo Nation or within the Near Reservation Designated Communities authorized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs at least the last six months of his/her life. The Decedent must be a member of a federally recognized Indian nation. The application is filed within 180 days following the date of the COVID 19 related death. The Decedent's income and resources available prior to his or her death has to meet the income eligibility as provided by 25 CFR Section 20.100.

NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR SELF RELIANCE



(866) 347-2403

info@nntanf.org

www.nnpsr.navajo-nsn.gov

P.O. BOX 2279 Window Rock, Arizona

The Department for Self Reliance (DSR) is established under the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services within the Executive Branch of the Navajo Nation government. The DSR is responsible for administering the Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program for eligible families residing on the Navajo Nation and federally recognized near reservation communities within the states of New Mexico, Arizona and Utah.

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Participating Funeral Homes in Agreement with NFAS for P.L. 93-638 Burial Assistance:

- Alameda Mortuary, Albuquerque, NM, (505) 898-3160
- Compassion Mortuary, Grants, NM (866) 292-0086
- Cope Memorial Chapel, Gallup, NM (505) 722-6671
- Cope Memorial Chapel, Kirtland, NM (505) 598-9636
- Daniel's Family Funeral Srvcs, Socorro, NM, (575) 835-1530
- Desert View Funeral Home, Shiprock, NM, (505) 368-4607
- Rollie Mortuary, Gallup, NM (505) 863-4452
- Silver Creek Mortuary, Gallup, NM (505) 371-3690
- Summit Funeral Home, Saint Michaels, AZ, (928) 871-1120
- Tse Bonito Mortuary, Tse Bonito, NM (505) 371-5565
- Valley Ridge Mortuary, Tuba City, AZ (928) 640-7677

The participating Funeral Home will provide an application to you and submit the application, and all required documents, directly to NFAS to determine the standard rate for payment. Once the Funeral Home receives an approved decision, they will proceed with the funeral arrangements according to the amount approved by NFAS. The amount approved may not supplement a higher package.

List NFAS locations:

CROWNPOINT, NM

- Department for Family Services
2724 Chapter House Road
T: (505) 786-2236 F: (505) 786-2238

SHIPROCK, NM

- Department for Family Services
HWY 491 A BIA BDG RM#118
T: (505) 368-1185 F: (505) 368-1177

GALLUP, NM

- Department for Self Reliance
2907 East Aztec
T: (505) 722-8415 F: (505) 722-8959

CHINLE, AZ

- Department for Self Reliance
Imperial Mart Circle Route 7
T: (928) 674-8194 F: (928) 674-2351

Participating Funeral Homes in Agreement with NFAS for P.L. 93-638 COVID-19 Burial Assistance:

- Summit Funeral Home, (928) 871.1120, Saint Michaels, AZ
- Valley Ridge Mortuary, (928) 283.8000, Tuba City, AZ
- Lozano's Flagstaff Mortuary, (928) 774.1467, Flagstaff, AZ
- Norvel Owens Mortuary, (928) 774.2211, Flagstaff, AZ
- Greer's Mortuary, (928) 289.3335, Winslow, AZ
- Alameda Mortuary, (505) 898.3160, Albuquerque, NM
- Compassion Mortuary, (505) 287.5511, Grants, NM
- Cope Memorial Chapel, (505) 722.6671, Gallup, NM
- Cope Memorial Kirtland Chapel, (505) 598.9636, Kirtland, NM
- French Mortuary, (505) 843.6333, Albuquerque, NM
- Daniel's Family Funeral Srvs, (505) 892.9096, Socorro, NM
- Rollie Mortuary, (505)863.4452, Gallup, NM
- Silver Creek Mortuary, (505) 371.3690, Gallup, NM
- Tse Bonito Mortuary, (505) 371.5565, Gallup, NM
- French Mortuary, (505) 338.2000, Rio Rancho, NM
- Desert View Funeral Home, (505) 368.4607, Shiprock, NM

KAYENTA, AZ

- Department for Self Reliance
1000 Main Pony Road
T: (928) 697-3218 F: (928) 697-5665

TUBA CITY, AZ

- Department for Self Reliance
North Main St., Suite 103
T: (928) 283-6613 F: (928) 2833407

WINDOW ROCK, AZ

- Department for Self Reliance Admin .
48 W Highway 264, Quality Inn Office
Complex – Suite 108
P: (928) 810-8592 F: (928) 810-8557

DILKON, AZ

- Department for Family Services
S RTE 15 Dilkon Chpt. Cmpd. #5582
T: (928) 657-8030 F: (928) 657-8098

Navajo Nation P.L. 93-638 Burial Assistance Guidelines
available for download at www.nndr.navajo-nsn.gov.

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NAVAJO NATION FAMILY ASSISTANCE SERVICES

P.L. 93-638 COVID-19 BURIAL ASSISTANCE GUIDELINE

August 3rd, 2020

Section One: General Information

1. The Navajo Nation received a one-time non-recurring non-base funds through a modification to an existing Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) agreement under the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Program Contract A16AV00385. The funds are from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Recovery (CARES) Act funding for COVID 19 prevention, preparedness and response to address the specific needs arising from the COVID 19 pandemic.
2. The Navajo Family Assistance Services (NFAS) established within the Department for Self Reliance (DSR) currently administers the standard P. L. 93-638 Burial Assistance. With the receipt of the CARES pandemic funds, the NFAS is assigned to administer the P.L. 93-638 COVID 19 Burial Assistance. The P.L. 93-638 COVID 19 Burial Assistance requires a separate policy for reporting and auditing purposes. This assistance is contingent upon availability of funds and will be used until exhausted or by May 18, 2021.

Section Two: Purpose

1. The purpose of the P.L. 93-638 COVID 19 Burial Assistance is for "Those individuals whose death was caused by the COVID 19 virus will be eligible for a higher burial benefit of \$3,500. Eligibility will be determined by application filed according to 25 CFR Section 20.100."
2. The purpose of this document is to serve as Guideline when an Applicant of the decedent are applying for P.L. 93-638 COVID 19 Burial Assistance.

Section Three: Eligibility Criteria

In order to qualify, the following criteria must be met:

1. The Decedent must have expired as a result of the COVID 19 virus. A written documentation on a human remains release form, expiration record, hospital medical statement, or ambulatory care record signed by a health official or an appropriate authority, or working copy of certificate of death that verifies that the decedent expired as a result of COVID19.
2. The Decedent must have resided on the Navajo Nation or within the Near Reservation Designated Communities authorized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (list of eligible communities attached) for at least the last six months of his/her life.
3. The Decedent must be a member of a federally recognized Indian nation.
4. The application is filed within 180 days following the date of the COVID 19 related death.

5. The decedent's income and resources available prior to his or her death has to meet the income eligibility as provided by 25 CFR Section 20.100.

Section Four: Application process

1. The Applicant of the decedent must complete and submit the following:
 - A. Complete the P. L. 93-638 COVID-19 Burial Assistance application and submit to a local NFAS office to a NFAS Senior Caseworker (SCW).
 - B. Provide the following decedent's documents to the local NFAS:
 - a. Certificate of Indian Blood;
 - b. Residency verification i.e. map to residence, utility statement, drivers license, etc.; and
 - c. Income verification, i.e. SSI, veteran's death benefits, social security and Individual Indian Money accounts, etc.
 - C. The Applicant shall identify the selected mortuary or funeral home. After the Applicant works out the arrangement with the mortuary or funeral home, the Applicant shall inform the mortuary or funeral home to submit an invoice to the NFAS SCW for the burial expenses to not exceed \$3,500.00.
 - D. Upon receipt of a complete and accurate application, the NFAS SCW shall work with the selected mortuary or funeral home.
 - E. The NFAS SCW will not include any funds generated through donations in the determination of eligibility due to these funds are generated after the decedent's expiration.
2. To determine income, eligibility is based on the income and resources available to the deceased in accordance of 25 CFR Section 20.100. The requested information to be submitted includes but is not limited to Social Security Income, Veteran's Death benefits, Social Security, and Individual Indian Money accounts.

Section Five: Eligible Burial Expenses Not to Exceed \$3,500 and is contingent upon availability of funds

The P.L. 93-638 COVID 19 Burial Assistance maximum amount is to not exceed \$3,500 to be paid directly to the mortuary or funeral home. NFAS is not responsible for any burial expenses over \$3,500.00.

Section Six: Appeal Process

If an application is denied, a written appeal for reconsideration must be submitted to the NFAS Senior Program and Project Specialist (SPPS) within fifteen (15) working days of the receipt of the denial letter. The written appeal shall outline the reason(s) why the Applicant is disputing the denial of an application and should include supporting document(s), if any. The NFAS SPPS decision will be final.