



A step by step guide

This guide will help you to check what you need to do after a death. It includes information about registering the death, notifying government departments and finding help to sort out financial issues.

This guide provides advice, information and support to anyone who has been bereaved.

We have many different ways we can communicate with you

If you would like braille, British Sign Language, a hearing loop, translations, large print, audio or something else please contact us for free on **0800 731 0469** (Option 2) or Textphone **0800 731 0464** for deaf or hard of hearing.

Getting help and support

The Bereavement Service at the Department for Work and Pensions will help bereaved relatives with pensions and benefit advice. To contact us for free, call **0800 731 0469** (Option 2) or Textphone **0800 731 0464** for deaf or hard of hearing.

The Cruse Bereavement Care Freephone Helpline for England and Wales is staffed by trained bereavement volunteers, who offer emotional support to anyone affected by bereavement. To contact them for free, call **0808 808 1677**.

Cruse Scotland is available in Scotland. To contact them, call **0845 600 2227**. Calls cost 5p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.

Silver Line is a free confidential helpline providing information, friendship and advice to older people, open 24 hours a day, every day of the year. To contact them for free, call **0800 470 8090**.

Age UK is a free confidential helpline providing information, open 8am - 7pm every day of the year. To contact them for free, call **0800 678 1602**.

Local councils may offer help and support. Go to www.gov.uk/find-local-council for information.

Citizens Advice may offer help and support. Go to www.citizensadvice.org.uk for information.

GOV.UK is the best place to find government services and information. This guide is only a copy of selected information taken from www.gov.uk. The latest information is always available online. If needed, ask a friend or a family member to help you. For the full information go to www.gov.uk/after-a-death

The boxes are here to help you, if needed. You can tick them when the step is completed.



Step 1

Register the death within 5 days in England and Wales, 8 days in Scotland

This includes weekends and bank holidays. Go to www.gov.uk/register-a-death for information.

To stop or change benefit payments, tell us about the death straight away. Call the Bereavement Service for free on **0800 731 0469** (option 2) or Textphone **0800 731 0464** for deaf or hard of hearing.

Step 2

Arrange the funeral

If you are arranging a funeral and get certain benefits, you may be able to get help with funeral costs. This is Funeral Expense Payment if you live in England or Wales or Funeral Support Payment if you live in Scotland.

Go to www.gov.uk/funeral-payments for information.

There are many low cost options available when arranging a funeral. Using the internet may help you to find a funeral package that meets your needs.

Step 3

Tell government departments and organisations about the death

The Tell Us Once service lets you report a death to most government departments in one call. Call Tell Us Once for free on **0800 085 7308** or Textphone **0800 141 2218** for deaf or hard of hearing.

Go to

www.gov.uk/after-a-death/organisations-you-need-to-contact-and-tell-us-once for information.

You may also need to tell banks, insurance companies, utility companies and landlords yourself.

Step 4

Check if you can get bereavement benefits

You may be able to get financial help:

- Bereavement Support Payment if your spouse or civil partner has died. Go to www.gov.uk/bereavement-support-payment for information
- Guardian's Allowance if you are bringing up a child whose parents have died. Go to www.gov.uk/guardians-allowance for information

Deal with your own benefits, pension and taxes

Your tax, benefit claims and pension might change depending on your relationship with the person who died. Go to www.gov.uk/death-spouse-benefits-tax-pension for information.

Check if you need to apply to stay in the UK

If your right to live in the UK depends on your relationship with someone who died you might need to apply for a new visa. Go to www.gov.uk/visas-partner-dies for information.

Step 5

Deal with their estate

You may need to apply for the right to deal with the estate of the person who has died (also called probate). Go to www.gov.uk/probate-estate for information.