



1. Home (<https://www.gov.uk/>)
2. Benefits (<https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits>)
3. Death and benefits (<https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/bereavement>)

# Bereavement Payment

## 1. Eligibility

You may be able to get a £2,000 Bereavement Payment if your spouse or civil partner died before 6 April 2017. This is a one-off, tax-free, lump-sum payment.

If your spouse or civil partner died on or after 6 April 2017 you may be eligible for Bereavement Support Payment (<https://www.gov.uk/bereavement-support-payment>) instead.

You may be able to get Bereavement Payment if, when your husband, wife or civil partner died, you were either:

- under State Pension age
- over State Pension age and your husband, wife or civil partner wasn't entitled to a State Pension based on their own national insurance contributions

Additionally, your husband, wife or civil partner must have either:

- paid enough National Insurance contributions
- died because of an industrial accident or disease

## When you can't get Bereavement Payment

You can't get Bereavement Payment if any of the following are true:

- you were divorced from your husband, wife or civil partner
- you're living with another person as husband, wife or civil partner
- you're in prison

## Other bereavement benefits

You may also be eligible for:

- Widowed Parent's Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/widowed-parents-allowance>) - if you're bringing up children
- Bereavement Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/bereavement-allowance>)

You don't have to apply more than once - you'll be considered for all bereavement benefits when you apply for one.

## If you're abroad

If you've moved abroad contact the International Pension Centre to find out if you can claim.

## **Bereavement and widows' benefits if you're abroad**

Telephone: +44 191 21 87608

Find out about call charges (<https://www.gov.uk/call-charges>)

Department for Work and Pensions

Bereavement and widows' benefits

International Pension Centre

Tyneview Park

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

NE98 1BA

You must include your:

- full name
- date of birth
- National Insurance number (<https://www.gov.uk/national-insurance/your-national-insurance-number>)

## **2. How to claim**

You can apply using a form or by phone.

### **Apply using a form**

Download and fill in the Bereavement Benefits pack (form BB1)

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bereavement-benefits-claim-form>).

You can also get the form from your local Jobcentre Plus (<https://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus>) in person or by ordering over the phone.

The pack has notes to help you fill in the form.

Take the completed form to your local Jobcentre Plus (<https://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus>) or send it to:

Dover Benefit Centre

Post Handling Site B

Wolverhampton

WV99 1LA

### **Alternative formats**

Call the Bereavement Service helpline to ask for alternative formats, such as braille, large print or audio CD.

### **Apply by phone**

Call the Bereavement Service helpline.

#### **Bereavement Service helpline**

Telephone: 0345 606 0265

Welsh language: 0345 606 0275

Textphone: 0345 606 0285

Welsh language: 0345 606 0295

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

Find out about call charges (<https://www.gov.uk/call-charges>)

## When you need to apply by

You can claim Bereavement Payment up to 12 months after your husband, wife or civil partner dies.

You should claim within 3 months if you're also claiming Widowed Parent's Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/widowed-parents-allowance>) or Bereavement Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/bereavement-allowance>).

## How Bereavement Payment is paid

Bereavement Payment is usually paid into your bank, building society or credit union account (<https://www.gov.uk/how-to-have-your-benefits-paid>).

## Appeal a decision

You can appeal to the Social Security and Child Support Tribunal (<https://www.gov.uk/social-security-child-support-tribunal>) if you disagree with a decision. You must usually ask for 'mandatory reconsideration' (<https://www.gov.uk/social-security-child-support-tribunal/before-you-appeal>) before you appeal.

## 3. Effect on other benefits

Bereavement Payment can affect your entitlement to:

- Income Support (<https://www.gov.uk/income-support>)
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/jobseekers-allowance>)
- Housing Benefit (<https://www.gov.uk/housing-benefit>)
- Employment and Support Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/employment-support-allowance>)
- Universal Credit (<https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit>)

You can ask your Jobcentre Plus (<https://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus>) adviser how this works.