

# Funeral Financial Assistance Fund Guidelines & Application

The Funeral Financial Assistance (FFA) fund helps families pay for part of cremation, aquamation, or burial arrangements. These guidelines outline who is most likely to receive assistance and where the funds can be applied. If you believe your situation qualifies, please submit the entire four-page application with a letter of recommendation to People's Memorial Association at <a href="mailto:info@peoplesmemorial.org">info@peoplesmemorial.org</a> or fax to 206-529-3801.

#### **Guidelines**

# **Responsible Party Affirmation**

FFA is only open to decedents who have a next-of-kin or a responsible party to claim their body and remains. The next-of-kin or responsible party must fully complete the application to the best of their knowledge and provide a letter of recommendation. If there is no next-of-kin or responsible party, the case should be referred to the local county <u>indigent cremation program</u>.

### Membership

The decedent will receive PMA membership upon approval of the FFA application, if they are not already a member. A PMA membership provides discounted services at a network of contracted funeral homes in Washington state that meet PMA's high standards for quality and ethics. Learn more about PMA membership here: <a href="https://www.peoplesmemorial.org/membership/why-be-a-member/">www.peoplesmemorial.org/membership/why-be-a-member/</a>.

## **Arrangements**

The cremation, aquamation, or burial arrangements must be handled by a funeral home contracted with PMA; <a href="www.peoplesmemorial.org/providers">www.peoplesmemorial.org/providers</a> lists current providers. The FFA does not cover transferring a loved one to a PMA-contracted funeral home from a non-PMA-contracted funeral home. For those interested in burial, PMA does sell discounted burial plots: visit <a href="www.peoplesmemorial.org/plots">www.peoplesmemorial.org/plots</a> for additional details. At this time, FFA does not cover natural organic reduction (aka terramation or human composting) services.

#### Location of deceased

The decedent must either be at a funeral home contracted with PMA or not yet at a funeral home (i.e. at home, in a hospital, or at the medical examiner's office). If a body is already at a funeral home not contracted with PMA, then you will not qualify for this fund. This fund cannot be used to pay for transportation of the deceased from a non-PMA-contracted funeral home to a PMA-contracted funeral home. This fund cannot be used to pay for refrigeration costs, whether already accrued or to be accrued upon application, unless part of payment to a PMA-contracted funeral home.

#### Letter of Recommendation

The letter of recommendation should be written by a professional familiar with the family's situation. Some examples include a healthcare provider, social worker, religious leader, landlord, guardian, employer, or other person not related to the decedent or next-of-kin. The letter should include their relationship to the family/decedent and their belief that paying for simple funeral expenses would risk basic necessities like food and shelter.

#### Income Level

PMA uses the <u>Federal Guidance for the Washington State Low-Income Weatherization Program Eligibility</u> Guidelines to determine financial need. PMA considers total household income at or below 80% Area

Median Income (AMI) based on household size and county for the next-of-kin. Preference is given to individuals on Social Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). We ask information for both the decedent and applicant so we can ensure these funds assist those in most need.

# **Determination and Payment**

PMA determines if assistance will be awarded and the amount, with a maximum of 75% of the fee for a cremation or alkaline hydrolysis, or 50% of the fee for direct burial. The price of services varies based on the funeral home and location. PMA will directly pay the attending funeral home upon receipt of the Goods and Services statement. The next-of-kin or responsible party must pay any additional expenses over the amount awarded. Cemeteries (optionally) contracted will generate a second bill, and this cemetery bill will not be covered by PMA or the FFA.

I have read the FFA guidelines, and the information provided is complete and true to the best of my ability.

Signature	Date

#### Application – Decedent Information

#### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name:			
Desired Disposition Method:	Cremation	Aquamation Burio	al 🗌
Funeral Home:		PMA Member #:	
Date of Birth:		Date of Death:	
Permanent Address:			
City:		State:	Zip Code:
On Medicaid? Disability Yes No Yes	Program?	Which program(s)?	
circle one Own Home	Rent	Monthly Mortgage/Rent Amour	nt:
Was the decedent the paren	t or guardian of a	child(ren) under 18? Yes	No [

	EA	APLOYMENT	
Employed? Yes	No 🗍	Retired? Yes No	
Employer:			
Employer Phone or	Email:		
Employer Address:			
Decedent's Job Tit	le:	Annual Income:	
Monthly Social Sec	urity Amount:	Monthly Pension Amount:	
	BAN	IK ACCOUNTS	
Account	Bank	Name(s) on Account	Balance
Checking			\$
Savings			\$
Other Accounts			
	LIFE	INSURANCE	

	LIFE INSURAN	CE	
Insurance Company	Beneficiary(ies)		Value
	RETIREMENT ACC	OUNTS	
Financial Institution	Beneficiary(ies)		Value
	ASSETS: HOME, AUTO,	RV, OTHER	
Type of Asset	Description: Year, Make, Model	Amount Owed	Overall Value
Home		\$	\$
Auto		\$	\$
RV, Mobile Home, Motorcycle, or Other Assets greater than \$50,000 in value		\$	\$

Name:								
Relationship to the d	leceased:							
PMA Member #:			Hou	sehold Size:				
Date of Birth:			ls th 18?	e applicant Yes			vardian of a child(re	en) under
Phone Number:								
Permanent Address:								
City:			Stat	e:	Zip Cc	de:		
On Medicaid? Yes No	Disability Program? Yes N	10	Whic	ch program	(s) §			
circle one Own Ho	me Re	ent	Mor	nthly Mortgo	age/Rent /	Amoun	t:	
			EMI	PLOYMENT				
Employed? Yes	No 🗍	Retirec	lš A	es No		On D	visability? Yes	No [
Employer:		l		Emplo	yer Phone	or Emo	ail:	
Employer Address:								
Job Title:								
			I	NCOME				
Source				Monthly I	ncome		Annual Income	
Income from Work:				\$			\$	
Social Security:				\$			\$	
Disability:				\$			\$	
Pension:				\$			\$	
Retirement:				\$			\$	
				TOTAL: \$			TOTAL: \$	

Account

Bank

Name(s) on Account

Balance

				\$
Savings				\$
Credit Card Debt or Other Debt				\$
	ASSETS: HOM	E, AUTO,	RV, OTHER	
Type of Asset	Description: Year, Make,	Model	Amount Owed	Overall Value
Home			\$	\$
Auto			\$	\$
RV, Mobile Home, Motorcycle, or Other Assets greater than \$50,000 in value			\$	\$