WHAT IS COVID-19 FEMA FUNERAL ASSISTANCE?

The program may reimburse the person who paid the funeral costs of a family member or friend who died of COVID-19. The assistance will reimburse up to $9,000 per deceased individual. Eligible expenses typically include, but are not limited to:

- Funeral services; cremation; interment; transfer of remains; casket or urn; burial plot or cremation niche; marker or headstone; clergy or officiant services; arrangement of the funeral; and more.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Applicants seeking reimbursement must be:

- A U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien
- The person who paid for the funeral costs of someone who died of COVID-19 in the U.S. or its territories

CAN COFA* MIGRANTS QUALIFY FOR THIS PROGRAM?

Unfortunately, federal law does not allow COFA migrants to apply for this program. However, if a family member or friend who is a qualified applicant (see question 2) pays for the funeral costs of a deceased COFA migrant, they are eligible to apply for reimbursement.

WHAT SHOULD I HAVE READY WHEN I CALL?

A complete list of information and documentation can be found at fema.gov/funeral-assistance/faq.

Here is a list of a few key items to get you started:

- Basic information about the person who died (e.g. SSN, DOB, and location of death).
- Copy of the death certificate indicating cause of death was related to COVID-19 or COVID-19-like symptoms (for help getting a death certificate amended, call Hawaii Department of Health Corrections Office at 808-586-4541).
- Funeral expense documentation (e.g. invoices, funeral home contract) listing the name of the person applying for FEMA aid and the name of the person who died.
- Information on any funds received to help with funeral costs from other sources.

ARE THERE RESOURCES FOR THOSE HAVING DIFFICULTY PAYING UPFRONT COSTS?

- If you need help from friends or extended family to pay upfront costs, they can be included on the application for FEMA aid if they meet the criteria in item 2.
- Hawaii Community Lending is accepting applications for debt consolidation loans that can be used for funeral expenses. Free financial counseling is required.
  - Visit: tinyurl.com/loan-HCA for more information
- Call FEMA’s hotline directly to discuss unique situations.

Please note: FEMA Funeral Assistance DOES NOT GUARANTEE APPROVAL OR REIMBURSEMENT. FEMA will make all eligibility decisions on what is reimbursable. Individuals should speak to FEMA directly to review what costs are eligible. FEMA may consider other assistance applicants received in determining the reimbursable amount.

CALL TO APPLY:

844-684-6333
FEMA COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Hotline
Monday – Friday, 9am to 9pm Eastern Time
Option 3 for Other Languages

LEARN MORE:

www.fema.gov/funeral-assistance