

Subject: Updated Funeral Benefits Policies

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**BACKGROUND:**

Effective April 1, 2022, an amendment to the Income Support, Training and Health Benefits Regulation came into force that removed the requirement to issue funeral benefits based on a contract with the Minister of Community and Social Services (CSS) and a number of funeral service providers.

Funeral benefits will no longer be issued based on a contract. Albertans will apply directly to CSS for actual funeral costs up to a maximum rate. To enhance client choice and streamline processes, the government will not mandate what goods and services can be purchased under the new rates. Clients are also able to choose the provider of their choice. .

A funeral benefit is a supplementary benefit that can now be issued directly to an eligible person for actual expenses up to a maximum rate.

Rates are now set via Ministerial Order.

Policy has been revised to reflect the regulatory amendment, benefit rates, and processes.

**INTENT:**

To provide staff with information about the updated funeral benefits policy and processes.

**POLICY:**

The following policy has been updated:

[Funeral Benefits](#)

The following new policies have been added:

[Funeral Benefits for Income Support Households](#)

[Funeral Benefits for Low Income Albertans](#)

[Funeral Benefits for Low Income Albertans General Policy](#)

[Funeral Benefits for Low Income Albertans Special Groups](#)

[Exempt Income for Responsible Survivors and the Estate of the Deceased](#)

[Exempt Assets for Responsible Survivors and the Estate of the Deceased](#)