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Bereavement Support Payment

1. Eligibility

You may be able to get Bereavement Support Payment if your husband, wife or civil partner died on or after 6 April 2017.

You could be eligible if your partner either:

- paid National Insurance contributions for at least 25 weeks
- died because of an accident at work or a disease caused by work

When they died you must have been:

- under State Pension age
- living in the UK or a country that pays bereavement benefits (<https://www.gov.uk/claim-benefits-abroad/bereavement-benefits>)

You can't claim Bereavement Support Payment if you're in prison.

If your husband, wife or civil partner died before 6 April 2017

You may be able to get one or more of the following:

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

2. What you'll get

You'll get a larger first payment followed by up to 18 monthly payments. The amount depends on your circumstances.

Circumstance	First payment	Monthly payment
You have children under 20 in full-time education	£3,500	£350
You don't have children under 20 in full-time education	£2,500	£100

You must claim within 3 months of your husband, wife or civil partner's death to get the full amount. You can claim up to 21 months after but your payments will be less.

Your payments will be paid into your bank or building society account (<https://www.gov.uk/how-to-have-your-benefits-paid>).

If you get benefits

Bereavement Support Payment won't affect your benefits for a year after your first payment. After a year, any payment you have left over could affect the amount of benefit you're eligible for.

You must tell your benefits office (for example, your local Jobcentre Plus) when you start getting Bereavement Support Payment.

3. How to claim

How you apply depends on where you are.

If you're in the UK

You can apply using a form or by phone.

Download a Bereavement Support Payment pack (form BSP1)

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bereavement-support-payment-claim-form>) or order it over the phone from your local Jobcentre Plus (<https://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus>).

Take the completed form to your local Jobcentre Plus or send it to:

Bereavement Support Payment
Mail Handling Site A
Wolverhampton
WV98 2BS

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>)

There's a different process in Northern Ireland (<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/bereavement-support-payment>).

If you're abroad

You can apply by phone.

International Pension Centre

Telephone: +44 (0) 191 218 7608

Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm

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