

Dear Loved One:

We wanted to share with you some important time-sensitive information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). We encourage you to read the information below and contact FEMA to determine if you (or a family member) are eligible for additional assistance for expenses for a death. This assistance may be in addition to the life insurance benefit provided by the WEA Trust.

While the WEA Trust does not work with FEMA to determine eligibility for the Funeral Assistance program or distribute the Funeral Assistance funds, we did want to take a moment to make you aware of this assistance in case you qualify.

As you may have heard, FEMA announced that under the ***Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021*** and the ***American Rescue Plan Act of 2021***, FEMA may provide financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

As of the date of this letter, FEMA has provided the following information on their public website:

- **Who is Eligible?**

To be eligible for funeral assistance, you must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.
- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.

- **How to Apply**

If you had COVID-19 funeral expenses, we encourage you to keep and gather documentation. Types of information should include:

- **An official death certificate** that attributes the death directly or indirectly to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- **Funeral expenses documents** (receipts, funeral home contract, etc.) that includes the applicant's name, the deceased person's name, the amount of funeral expenses, and the dates the funeral expenses happened.
- **Proof of funds received from other sources** specifically for use toward funeral costs. We are not able to duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, government agencies, or other sources.

- **How are Funds Received**

- If you are eligible for funeral assistance you will receive a check by mail, or funds by direct deposit, depending on which option you choose when you apply for assistance.

- **How to Get Additional Information or Apply for Funeral Assistance**

- Visit FEMA’s website for COVID-19 Funeral Assistance at <https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance>
- **FEMA COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line Number**  
Applications begin on **April 12, 2021**  
**844-684-6333** | TTY: 800-462-7585  
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Central Time

Be fraud alert and don’t fall for scams! FEMA also has shared reports of scammers reaching out to people offering to register them for funeral assistance. FEMA has not sent any such notifications and FEMA does not contact people prior to them registering for assistance. If you doubt a FEMA representative is legitimate, hang up the phone and report it to the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 or the National Center for Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721. Complaints also may be made by contacting local law enforcement agencies.

We hope you found this information helpful. By sharing this information with you, it represents our commitment to provide service to our members and their families during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Life Insurance Department