



# Burial and Funeral Assistance

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## Fast facts

- ▲ To apply for burial and funeral assistance, call 612-348-7984.

## What is Indigent Burial and Funeral Assistance?

Minnesota statutes require counties to provide burials for indigents. Hennepin pays for cemetery expenses, caskets, vaults and professional services from mortuaries.

## How many use the service and at what cost?

In 2008, Hennepin paid for the burial and funerals of 839 people at a cost of \$1.2 million or \$1,491.90 per person.

In 2007, Hennepin paid for the burial and funerals of 870 people at a cost of \$766,255.67 or \$880.75 per person.

In 2006, Hennepin approved payments for 939 funeral assistance cases at a cost of \$848,496.47 or \$903.61 per person.

Allowable funeral and cemetery costs vary, depending on the age of the deceased. Costs range from \$740 for an infant to \$2,100 for an adult.

## Who qualifies for this assistance?

To be eligible for funeral assistance, the person must be a Hennepin resident, and the deceased's legal next of kin must apply for county assistance. To apply, call 612-348-7984.

Eligibility for a county-paid funeral is determined by the deceased person's finances, including cash, income, and real estate value. If the deceased is an adult, his or her finances must be less than \$2,100 or the amount that Hennepin will pay for the funeral to qualify for the assistance. If the deceased person is a child, his or her assets and income as well as the parents are considered. If the deceased has a spouse, minor child or parent, then the asset level must be less than \$3,100.

Once the county determines that the person is eligible for assistance, the legal next of kin decides what funeral home will be used and what type of arrangements (burial, cremation, reviewal) will be used. Hennepin pays the funeral home or cemetery directly.