

Bereavement Support payment

Eligibility

You may be able to get Bereavement Support Payment if your husband, wife or civil partner died in the last 21 months.

You must claim within 3 months of your partner's death to get the full amount. You can claim up to 21 months after their death but you'll get fewer monthly payments.

Bereavement Support Payment has replaced Bereavement Allowance (previously Widow's Pension), Bereavement Payment, and Widowed Parent's Allowance.

Your partner

You could be eligible if your partner either:

- paid [National Insurance contributions](#) for at least 25 weeks in one tax year since 6 April 1975
- 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](#)

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

If your partner died more than 21 months ago

You may still be able to claim Bereavement Support Payment if your husband, wife or civil partner's cause of death was confirmed more than 21 months after the death. [Call the Bereavement Service helpline](#).

What you'll get

You'll get a first payment and then up to 18 monthly payments. There are 2 rates.

	First payment	Monthly payment
Higher rate	£3,500	£350
Lower rate	£2,500	£100

If you get Child Benefit (or if you do not get it but are entitled to it), you'll get the higher rate.

If you do not get Child Benefit, you'll get the lower rate unless you were pregnant when your husband, wife or civil partner died.

You must claim within 3 months of your partner's death to get the full amount. If you claim later, you'll get fewer monthly payments.

Your payments will be paid into your [bank or building society account](#).

If you get benefits

Bereavement Support Payment will not affect your benefits for a year after your first payment. After a year, money you have left from your first payment could affect the amount you get if you renew or make a claim for another benefit.

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

How to claim

You can apply for Bereavement Support Payment online, by telephone or by post.

To apply, you'll need:

- your National Insurance number
- your bank or building society account details

- the date your partner died
- your partner's National Insurance number

Apply online

This is a trial service and it will only allow a limited number of daily applications.

Apply by phone

Bereavement Service helpline

Telephone: 0800 731 0469

Welsh language: 0800 731 0453

Textphone: 0800 731 0464

Welsh language: 0800 731 0456

[Relay UK](#) (if you cannot hear or speak on the phone): 18001 then 0800 731 0469

[Video relay service](#) for British Sign Language (BSL) users - [check you can use this service](#)

Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 3.30pm

[Find out about call charges](#)

Apply by post

To get a claim form, you can either:

- download a [Bereavement Support Payment form \(BSP1\)](#)
- [contact your nearest Jobcentre Plus](#) to get one through the post

Send it to the address on the form.