

Carver County Burial Policy

Pursuant to MN Statute 261.035, Carver County Health and Human Services will pay the funeral expenses for indigent persons whose resources are insufficient to meet the costs of burial or if the resources of a financially responsible relative (spouse or parents of minor children) are insufficient to meet the costs of a burial.

The Carver County burial policy will be followed for all eligible persons who are the financial responsibility of Carver County.

Under this policy, burials paid for by Carver County will be by cremation. If it is determined that cremation is not in accordance with the decedent's personal preferences or the known practices of the decedent's faith tradition or the personal preferences of the decedent's spouse or the decedent's next of kin, the county board shall provide for a burial and funeral. All exception requests must be made in writing and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approved by the Agency Director or their designee.

At no time will Carver County pay for a weekend burial if additional expenses above and beyond the limits set forth herein are incurred due to the weekend scheduling.

Applications for a county paid burial must be completed with Carver County Health and Human Services. Upon completion and verification of the application and receipt of a Statement of Goods and Services, authorization will be given to the funeral director if approved. All county burials **MUST RECEIVE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION**. The funeral director must complete and return a Declaration and Claim of Funeral Director for Payment of Income Maintenance Burial before payment will be made. If additional assets are discovered following payment to the funeral home that determines a county burial should not have been approved, the financially responsible individual will be billed for the services.

All available resources of the deceased, or financially responsible relative, must be applied to the maximum county contribution. No funeral expenses will be paid if resources are sufficient to pay the burial costs. A surviving spouse may be allowed to keep up to \$3,000 of their own assets to maintain themselves in the community. A surviving family may keep up to \$1500 per surviving family member to maintain their family in the community.

Household Income Limits: If the responsible individual has earned income, the HH Income limits for their HH size will determine if the income is at or below the standard for the household size. Income must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

200% of Household Poverty Level in 2024

Household Size	Monthly Income (2024)	Annual Income (2024)
1	\$2510	\$30,120
2	\$3407	\$40,880
3	\$4303	\$51,640
4	\$5200	\$62,400
5	\$6097	\$73,160

A claim will be filed against the estate of the deceased for any funds expended by Carver County. It is understood that all resources (including but not limited to the balance of the checking/savings account) of the decedent shall be remitted to Carver County Health and Human Services to offset the expenses of the county burial. If the deceased is entitled to death benefits from any source, the benefits will be collected by Carver County.

Direct Cremation		Traditional Burial	
Professional Services	\$1,800.00	Professional Services	\$1,800.00
Cremation Fee and container	\$ 750.00	Casket	Actual, up to \$500.00
Casket rental or purchase may not be a separate or added fee		Vault/Grave Liner	Actual, up to \$550.00
		Cemetery lot and opening/closing	Actual invoice
		Transportation per loaded mile	\$1.75 per mile, not to exceed 150 miles
Total cost for cremation not to exceed	\$2,550.00	Total cost for traditional burial not to exceed	\$3,600.00

*****The County will not pay for accessory services or items such as flowers, honorariums, music, processions, clothes, printed material, food, obituaries, death certificates or other such items. The family may contribute up to \$500 of their own funds towards these items.**