

## Bereavement Support Payment

You may be able to get Bereavement Support Payment (BSP) 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.)

### You could be eligible if your partner either:

- paid **National Insurance contributions** for at least 25 weeks in one tax year
- 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 BSP if you're in prison.

### If your partner died more than 21 months ago

You may still be able to claim BSP 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](#).

**Telephone: 0800 731 0469**

If your husband, wife or civil partner died before 6 April 2017, you may be able to get [Widowed Parent's Allowance](#) instead.

## What you'll get

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

Rate	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, 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.**

### **How to Claim**

#### **Bereavement Service helpline**

Telephone: 0800 731 0469

To get a form, you can either:

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

Bereavement Support Payment  
Mail Handling Site A  
Wolverhampton  
WV98 2BS