

# Bereavement benefits



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

## We have many different ways we can communicate with you

If you would like braille, British Sign Language, a hearing loop, translations, large print, audio or something else please tell us. You can find our contact details by searching for the relevant benefit on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

## Your claim for bereavement benefits

- Your benefit payments may be delayed if you do not
  - answer all the questions on this form that apply to you and your spouse or civil partner
  - send us all the documents we ask for.

If you cannot do this, get in touch with us straight away.

- Please tell us about any other personal details you think we should know about in **Part 6**. For instance, other names or recent previous addresses.

## Other organisations who might be able to help you

- Your local Citizens Advice Bureau.
- Cruse Bereavement Care offers emotional support to the bereaved. You can contact them on

Helpline **0808 808 1677**  
Email **helpline@cruse.org.uk**  
Website **www.cruse.org.uk**

This organisation is not able to give advice on bereavement payments, other benefits or financial matters.

## How DWP collects and uses information

When we collect information about you we may use it for any of our purposes. These include:

- social security benefits and allowances
- child maintenance
- employment and training
- investigating and prosecuting tax credits offences
- private pensions policy and
- retirement planning.

We may get information about you from other parties for any of our purposes as the law allows to check the information you provide and improve our services. We may give information about you to other organisations as the law allows, for example to protect against crime.

To find out more about our purposes, how we use personal information for those purposes and your information rights, including how to request a copy of your information, please visit [www.gov.uk/dwp/personal-information-charter](http://www.gov.uk/dwp/personal-information-charter)

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# Part 1: About you

Please fill in this form with BLACK INK and in CAPITALS.

## National Insurance (NI) number

You can find this on your National Insurance (NI) numbercard, letters from the Department for Work and Pensions or payslips.

If you do not know your NI number, have you ever had one or used one at any time?

Letters	Numbers		Letter
<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

No

Yes

## Surname or family name

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

## All other names, in full

## All other surnames or family names you have been known by or are using now.

Please include maiden name, all former married or civil partnership names and all changes of family name where appropriate.

## Address

## Home phone number

## Mobile phone number

## Email address

where we can contact you

Please confirm if this email address is

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>
Postcode

Code      Number

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>

personal     private     secure

## Date of birth

/  /

Please send us your **original** birth certificate, if you have it. Do not send us a photocopy. **But if you do not have your birth certificate, do not delay sending in this claim form.** If you prefer, you can take your birth certificate to your Jobcentre Plus office. Take this form as well. They will sign this form to show that they have seen your certificate.

## Are you sending your birth certificate with this form?

No

Yes

We will send your birth certificate back to you as soon as we can.

# Part 1: About you continued

## What was the date of your marriage or civil partnership?

If you converted or changed your civil partnership into a marriage or married your civil partner, enter the date your marriage is treated as starting on.

Please send us your **original** marriage or civil partnership certificate, if you have it. Do not send us a photocopy. **But if you do not have your marriage or civil partnership certificate, do not delay sending in this claim form.** If you prefer, you can take your marriage or civil partnership certificate to your Jobcentre Plus office. Take this form as well. They will sign this form to show that they have seen your certificate.

## Are you sending your marriage or civil partnership certificate with this form?

No

Yes

We will send your marriage or civil partnership certificate back to you as soon as we can.

## Under what law/religion was the ceremony conducted?

## Please tell us the country where your marriage or civil partnership took place.

## Did your marriage end in divorce or has your civil partnership been dissolved?

No

Yes

## Are you legally separated?

No

Yes

## Are you, or have you been living with someone else as if you were married to them, or as if you are civil partners?

No

Yes  Please tell us about this at **Part 6**.

## Part 2: About your spouse or civil partner

Your spouse or civil partner's  
National Insurance (NI) number

Letters	Numbers		Letter
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Your spouse or civil partner's  
surname

Your spouse or civil partner's  
other names

Address

if it was different from your address.  
If you do not know their address,  
write **Not known**.

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>
<input type="text" value="Postcode"/>

Your spouse or civil partner's  
date of birth

What date did your spouse or  
civil partner die?

Please send us the Certificate of Registration of Death if you have not already sent it to us. You can get this from the registrar in Great Britain only. If you have an interim death certificate or a letter from the coroner confirming the death, please send it to us.

Did your spouse or civil partner die  
more than 3 months ago?

No

Yes  Please tell us below why you did not claim earlier.  
If you need more space, please use **Part 6**.

Were they getting a State Pension  
or any other benefits?

No

Yes  Please say which benefits.

## Part 2: About your spouse or civil partner continued

**Did they pay NI contributions during the 2 years up to 5 April before they died?**

No

Yes  Please tell us about this.

Did they pay these contributions through an employer?

No

Yes  Please tell us about any employers they had during this period.

### Employer's name and address

If you know that pay is dealt with at a different address, please give us this address and phone number.

#### Employer 1

Postcode

#### Employer 2

Postcode

### Clock or payroll number

If not known, tell us their job or department.

### Date they started work for this employer

 /  /  /  / 

### Date they stopped work for this employer

 /  /  /  / 

If they had more than 2 employers, tell us about them in **Part 6**. We may have to get in touch with their employers. We will tell them if they have to pay you a pension from your spouse or civil partner's pension scheme.

### Were they self-employed?

No

Yes  Please tell us about this.

### Were they a member of HM Forces when they died?

No

Yes

### Were they getting a War Pension when they died?

No

Yes  Please tell us their reference number. This is on any letters about their War Pension.

## Part 2: About your spouse or civil partner continued

If your spouse or civil partner died because of an accident at work, or because of a disease or illness connected with their work, you may be entitled to a bereavement benefit even if they had not paid enough NI contributions. You can find out which diseases and illnesses you can claim for at [www.gov.uk/industrial-injuries-disablement-benefit/further-information](http://www.gov.uk/industrial-injuries-disablement-benefit/further-information) or by using the contact information given there to telephone or write for further information.

**Do you think your spouse or civil partner died because of an accident at work, or because of a disease or illness connected with their work?**

No

Yes  May we get medical reports from their doctor and any hospital, if we need them?

No

Yes

We need to know about any time that your spouse or civil partner lived or worked outside the United Kingdom (UK). This is because if they paid into the social security scheme in another country, it may count towards your bereavement benefits. The United Kingdom is England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Please tell us about any time that they lived in

- a country outside the UK, or
- the Channel Islands, or
- the Republic of Ireland.

**Did your spouse or civil partner ever live outside the UK?**

If they only ever lived in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, tick **No**.

No  Please go to **Part 3**.

Yes  Tell us about the time they spent outside the UK.

**Which country or crown dependency did they live in?**

If they lived in the Isle of Man, tell us here.

Country 1

Country 2

**When did they live there?**

From  /  /

From  /  /

To  /  /

To  /  /

**Did they pay into the social security scheme of the country they lived in?**

Do not know

No

Yes  What was their social security reference number?

Do not know

No

Yes  What was their social security reference number?

If they lived in more than 2 countries, tell us about this below.

## Part 3: About children

### Are you expecting a child with your late spouse or civil partner?

If you are, you may be able to get extra benefit when the baby is born.

No

Yes  What date is the baby expected?

 /  / 

### Are you entitled to any Child Benefit?

If you fall into the High Income Child Benefit charge group and you:

- are entitled to Child Benefit but do not receive it, please tick **Yes** and tell us the Child Benefit reference number
- have not claimed Child Benefit, you must do so for your claim for a Widowed Parent's Allowance to be considered. If you fall into this group please provide details of your dependant children or qualifying young person in the rest of **Part 3**.

No

Yes  Tell us the Child Benefit reference number. This is on any letters sent to you about Child Benefit, or on a bank statement.

How much do you get each week?

 each week

### Are you waiting to hear if you can get Child Benefit?

No

Yes

### When your spouse or civil partner died, were they getting any Child Benefit for any children?

If your late spouse or civil partner was claiming Child Benefit and you have not yet made a claim to transfer it to your name, you must do so, but please complete the rest of **Part 3** and complete your claim for bereavement benefits.

No

Yes  Tell us the Child Benefit reference number. This is on any letters sent to them about Child Benefit, or on a bank statement.

How much did they get each week?

 each week

### What to do next

If you have answered **Yes** to one or more of these questions, please fill in the rest of **Part 3**.

### More information

For more information about claiming Child Benefit please contact HMRC.

Go to [www.gov.uk/child-benefit/how-to-claim-child-benefit](http://www.gov.uk/child-benefit/how-to-claim-child-benefit) or telephone the HMRC Helpline on **0300 200 3100**. Lines are open Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm, Saturday 8am to 4pm. If you have speech or hearing difficulties and use a textphone, the number to use is **0300 200 3103**.

## Part 3: About children continued

### Do you have any children or qualifying young persons living permanently in your household who are dependent on you?

We use child to mean a person aged under 16 and qualifying young person to mean a person aged 16, 17, 18 or 19.

No  Please go to **Part 4**.

Yes  Tell us about these children or qualifying young persons below.

Child's surname

Child's other names

Child's date of birth

What relation, if any, are you to the child?

What relation, if any, was your spouse or civil partner to the child?

#### 2nd child

Child's surname

Child's other names

Child's date of birth

What relation, if any, are you to the child?

What relation, if any, was your spouse or civil partner to the child?

#### 3rd child

Child's surname

Child's other names

Child's date of birth

What relation, if any, are you to the child?

What relation, if any, was your spouse or civil partner to the child?



## Part 3: About children continued

Child's surname

4th child

Child's other names

Child's date of birth

 / 

What relation, if any, are you to the child?

What relation, if any, was your spouse or civil partner to the child?

If you want to tell us about more than 4 children, please tell us about them in **Part 6**.

### If a child is living with another person

Which child is living with another person?

What relation, if any, is this other person to the child?

How much do you send each week for the child?

£  each week

### If a child is in care

Which child is in care?

What is the name and address of the local authority caring for the child?

  
  
  

How much do you send each week for the child?

£  each week

### Have you told us about any children who you are not a parent of?

We use parent to include step-parents, parents by legal adoption and fathers and mothers of illegitimate children. If you need to tell us about more than one child, use the space in **Part 6**.

No

Yes  Name of the child.

Does one of their parents live at the same address as you?

No

Yes  What is their name?

## Part 3: About children continued

**Are you, or anyone else, entitled to any benefit or allowance for any of the children you have told us about?**

For example Guardian's Allowance. But tick **No** if you are just entitled to Child Benefit.

No

Yes  Please tell us about this.

**Benefit or allowance 1**

**Benefit or allowance 2**

Name of the benefit or allowance

Address of the office it comes from

  
  
  
  

Name of the child it is for

Who gets the benefit or allowance?

You

Someone else  Please say who.

You

Someone else  Please say who.

Benefit reference number

This is on any letters about the benefit.

**Are any of the children you have told us about getting any benefit or allowance?**

No

Yes  Please tell us about this.

**Benefit or allowance 1**

**Benefit or allowance 2**

Name of the benefit or allowance

Address of the office it comes from

  
  
  
  

Name of the child it is for

Benefit reference number

This is on any letters about the benefit.

**For more information about money for children see Part 10 About Child Tax Credit.**

## Part 4: About other benefits

### Have you claimed bereavement benefits or Widow's Benefit before?

Tick **Yes** if you claimed but were turned down.

No

Yes  Did you get bereavement benefits or Widow's Benefit?

No

Yes

### Are you getting any of these benefits or entitlements?

Tick **Yes** if you are waiting to hear about a benefit.

Even if the benefit or entitlement is not listed here, tell us about it anyway. We will contact you if we need more information.

- State Pension
- Jobseeker's Allowance
- Job Release Allowance
- Income Support
- Pension Credit
- War Widow's Pension
- Temporary Allowance for Widows, Widowers and Surviving Civil Partners
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Carer's Allowance
- Reduced Earnings Allowance
- Training Allowance
- Unemployability Supplement paid because of
  - a war disability due to service with HM Forces, or
  - an industrial accident or disease
- Guardian's Allowance
- Armed Forces Compensation Scheme Guaranteed Income Payment
- Universal Credit.

No

Yes  Please tell us about the benefits.

#### Name of benefit

#### Reference number

This is on any letters we have sent you about the benefit.

## Part 5: How we pay you

You can choose how often you want us to pay your benefit.

**How often do you want us to pay your benefit?**

Every 2 weeks

Every 4 weeks

Every 13 weeks

### **We normally pay your money into an account.**

Many banks and building societies will let you collect your money at the post office.

We will tell you when we will make the first payment and how much it will be for. We will tell you if the amount we pay into the account is going to change.

### **Finding out how much we have paid into the account**

You can check your payments on account statements. The statements may show your National Insurance (NI) number next to any payments we have made. If you think a payment is wrong, get in touch with the office that pays you straight away.

### **If we pay you too much money**

If we pay you too much money we have the right to take back any money we pay that you are not entitled to. This may be because of the way the payment system works.

For example, you may give us some information which means you are entitled to less money. Sometimes we may not be able to change the amount we have already paid you. This means we will have paid you money that you are not entitled to.

**We will contact you before we take back any money.**

## **What to do now**

- Tell us about the account you want to use on the next page. By giving us your account details you
  - agree that we will pay you into an account, and
  - understand what we have told you above in the section **If we pay you too much money**.
- If you are going to open an account, please tell us your account details as soon as you get them.
- If you do not have an account, please contact us and we will give you more information.

**Fill in the rest of this form. You do not have to wait until you have opened an account or contacted us.**

## Part 5: How we pay you continued

### About the account you want to use

- You can use an account in your name, or a joint account.
- You can use someone else's account if
  - the terms and conditions of their account allow this, and
  - they agree to let you use their account, and
  - you are sure they will use your money in the way you tell them.
- You can use a credit union account. You must tell us the credit union's account details. Your credit union will be able to help you with this.
- If you are an appointee or a legal representative acting on behalf of the claimant, the account should be in your name only.

**Please tell us your account details below.**

**It is very important you fill in all the boxes correctly, including the building society roll or reference number, if you have one. If you tell us the wrong account details your payment may be delayed or you may lose money.**

You can find the account details on your chequebook or bank statements. If you do not know the account details, ask the bank or building society.

#### Name of the account holder

Please write the name of the account holder exactly as it is shown on the chequebook or statement.

#### Full name of bank or building society

#### Sort code

Please tell us all 6 numbers, for example 12-34-56.

 –  – 

#### Account number

Most account numbers are 8 numbers long. If your account number has fewer than 10 numbers, please fill in the numbers from the left.

#### Building society roll or reference number

If you are using a building society account you may need to tell us a roll or reference number. This may be made up of letters and numbers, and may be up to 18 characters long. If you are not sure if the account has a roll or reference number, ask the building society.

**You may get other benefits and entitlements we do not pay into an account. If you want us to pay them into the account above, please tick the box.**

## Part 6: Other information

**Please read carefully the notes that came with this form. Use this space to tell us anything else you think we might need to know.**

If there is not enough space, please use a separate sheet of paper. Make sure you put your full name and National Insurance (NI) number on each sheet of paper, and sign and date each sheet that you use.

## Part 7: Declaration

**I declare** that I am a widow, widower or surviving civil partner of the person named in **Part 2** of this form.

**I understand** that if I give false or incomplete information or fail to report all changes in my circumstances which may affect my entitlement promptly, I may be liable to prosecution or face a financial penalty.

**I declare** that I have read and understand the notes which came with this form and that I must telephone or write to the office that pays my benefit to report any change in my circumstances.

**I declare** that the information in my claim is complete and correct.

**Signature**

**Date**

/       /

## Part 8: What to do now

- 1 Check that you have answered all the questions that apply to you and your spouse or civil partner.**
- 2 Check that you have shown us all the documents we have asked for, or are sending them with this form.**

Use the checklist below:

- the Certificate of Registration of Death
- your birth certificate and marriage or civil partnership certificate
- a birth certificate for each child.

- 3 Check that you have signed this form.**
- 4 Send us your claim form as soon as possible.**

You must send us your claim form within 3 months of the death of your spouse or civil partner. Failure to do so may affect your entitlement to benefit.

You can claim a Bereavement Payment for up to 12 months after the death of your spouse or civil partner.

Return this claim form to Dover Benefit Centre, Post Handling Site B, Wolverhampton WV99 1LA or your nearest Jobcentre Plus office.

You can contact the Dover Bereavement Benefits office on **0800 151 2012**. If you have speech or hearing difficulties you can contact them using a textphone on **0800 169 0314**. Lines are open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. On the first Wednesday of every month the lines are open from 10am to 5pm.

Calls to **0800** numbers are free from landlines or mobiles.

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## Part 9: What happens next

- If you are entitled to a Bereavement Payment, we will make payment into your account as soon as we can. If you are not entitled to this benefit, we will write to tell you why.
  - It will take a little longer to work out if you are entitled to any other benefit. But we will write to tell you about this as soon as we can.
  - Benefit you can get because of this claim can be paid more quickly if you answer all the questions on this form that apply to you and your spouse or civil partner. If you cannot do this, get in touch with us. But benefit you can get because of this claim may be delayed.
- 

## Part 10: About Child Tax Credit

Child Tax Credit is a payment to support families with children. It can be claimed by those responsible for one or more child or young person.

Child Tax Credit

- is claimed from HM Revenue & Customs
- is paid in addition to Child Benefit
- can provide income for families with children, whether in or out of work
- is normally paid to the main carer.

To find out more about Child Tax Credit visit [www.gov.uk/child-tax-credits](http://www.gov.uk/child-tax-credits)

You can claim Child Tax Credit online too.

You can also phone HM Revenue & Customs about Child Tax Credit on **0345 300 3900**. If you have speech or hearing difficulties you can contact them using a textphone on **0345 300 3909**.

Lines are open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 4pm on Saturday. Lines are closed Sundays, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and Easter Sunday.

If you need help or a form in Welsh, please phone **0345 302 1489**. Lines are open 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

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