

# CHICKASAW COUNTY GENERAL ASSISTANCE BURIAL POLICY

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## **Legal Reference**

This policy is enacted to implement the intent of Iowa Code, Chapter 252, and the Chickasaw County General Assistance Program.

## **Purpose**

Chickasaw County will provide a "county funeral" for individuals with legal settlement in Chickasaw County who are determined "indigent" through the Chickasaw County General Assistance Office.

## **Assistance**

Chickasaw County will pay the following for services to be rendered:

## **Rates**

Regular - \$1,500.00

Cremation - \$1,000.00

Non-Resident Transient - \$1,000.00 (Includes open and close at Prairie View)

Transportation of deceased Chickasaw County resident to be returned to Chickasaw County from within the State of Iowa if they were temporarily (30 days or less) out of Chickasaw County for medical care/treatment. - \$ 100.00

## **Opening and Closing of Grave**

Regular - \$350.00

Cremation - \$175.00

Infant - \$250.00

## **Eligibility**

- If the deceased has a surviving spouse and/or adult children they are responsible for the expense of the burial not Chickasaw County.
- Parents of minor children are responsible for the burial of deceased minor child.
- Surviving spouses, adult children and parents of a deceased minor child may submit application to the Chickasaw County General Assistance office for consideration of a "county funeral".

**All** before mentioned adult surviving family member's (spouse/adult children/surviving parents of minor child) households must be at or below 75% of the current federal poverty guidelines AND the households must not have assets greater than described in the primary Chickasaw County General Assistance Program eligibility policy.

When there is no surviving spouse or adult children, or surviving parent of a minor child, the burial of deceased will be determined eligible for assistance if their representative affirms that they meet the conditions outlined in the Chickasaw County Burial Affidavit.

## **Reimbursement**

Any reimbursements realized from Veterans Administration Death Benefits or monies from private sources including savings, life insurance, sale of property, bonds, general income, etc., shall be deducted from the assistance allowance provided by Chickasaw County unless said reimbursement falls under the Exception rule as stated below. The County will be responsible for collecting all reimbursements.

## **Exception to Policy**

When special and/or unusual circumstances shall occur, the Director shall obtain approval of the Board of Supervisors, by majority, for approval of extra funds needed.

## **Appeal Process**

Any applicant who is denied assistance shall be informed of that decision in person, by telephone, and/or by mail. He/she may appeal that decision in writing to the Director of the Chickasaw County General Assistance Office within five (5) working days. The Director shall conduct a 1<sup>st</sup> level appeal within ten (10) working days of the appeal request. The Director will issue a decision within five (5) working days of the appeal. Applicants not satisfied with the Director's decision may make an appeal to the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors. Assistance in filing the appeal shall be provided to any applicant who has difficulty because of inability to read, write, or understand the appeal process.