

## What is the purpose of the program?

The **Murdered Children Funeral and Burial Assistance Program** allows for direct payment to the funeral establishments and cemetery authorities for funeral and burial expenses on behalf of eligible survivors of eligible child victims.

## Who can receive services?

Funeral establishments and cemetery/crematory authorities providing services to the eligible child victim(s). These establishments must be licensed by the State of Illinois.

## Who are eligible victims?

- child under 17 years of age, who was:
- killed in the State of Illinois by a firearm, and
- as a result of one of the following circumstances:
  - first degree murder,
  - second degree murder,
  - voluntary manslaughter of an unborn child,
  - voluntary manslaughter; and
  - involuntary manslaughter of an unborn child.

For information regarding the program, visit our website at:

[www.dhs.state.il.us](http://www.dhs.state.il.us)



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**DHS 4571 (N-08-23) FUNERAL & BURIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN**  
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State of Illinois  
Department of Human Services

# FUNERAL & BURIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN

In 2023, the Illinois **Murdered Children Funeral and Burial Assistance Program** was established to provide funeral and burial assistance for child victims of gun violence.



# FUNERAL & BURIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN

## Who is an eligible survivor?

- the parent or guardian of the child victim, or
- another individual living in the household of the child victim and in a relationship with the victim that is substantially similar to that of a parent; and
- has or shares the authority to direct the disposition of the remains for the victim pursuant to the Illinois Disposition of Remains Act; and
- has a household income of less than 150% of the federal poverty level.

## How do I submit a disbursement request?

The establishment providing services for the eligible victim should submit the *IL444-1961, Application for Funeral and Burial Assistance for the Murdered Children Program*.

Applications can be found on:  
[APPLICATION FOR FUNERAL  
AND BURIAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR THE MURDERED  
CHILDREN PROGRAM.](#)



Completed applications and supporting documents for disbursement requests can be sent to:

**Bureau of Local Office and Transaction  
Support Services  
Funeral and Burial Unit  
100 S Grand Ave East, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62762**

A funeral establishment and/or cemetery authority may submit a claim request within 365 days of the occurrence of July 1, 2023, or after of the crime for which the disbursement is sought.

## Maximum amount that IDHS will pay for burial assistance.

The total amount of disbursement to a funeral establishment and cemetery authority on behalf of a child victim, including payments made from other agencies and sources cannot exceed \$10,000 for an occurrence that occurred between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2024.

Disbursement amounts shall be adjusted annually beginning July 1, 2024, with the CPI-U.