

# Claim for Death Benefits

# U.S. Department of Labor

Employment Standards Administration  
Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

[www.dol.gov/esa/owcp/dlhwc/index.htm](http://www.dol.gov/esa/owcp/dlhwc/index.htm)



1. Name of deceased employee (First, Middle Initial, Last)		OWCP Number	Carrier's Number	OBM No. 1215-0160			
a. Social Security Number of deceased (Required by Law)							
2. Last address of deceased (Number, Street, City, State, ZIP)		8. Place of Death		9. Date of Death			
3. Name and address of employer (Number, Street, City, State, ZIP)		10. Place where injury occurred		11. Date of Injury			
4. Name and address of undertaker		12. Nature of injury or occupational illness and cause of death					
5. Amount of undertaker's bill	6. Amount Paid						
7. Name of person paying undertaker's bill		13. Name and address of last attending physician (or hospital)					
14. Name of widow/widower (see page 2 for conditions of eligibility)							
a. Full Name	b. Address	c. Social Security Number of widow/ widower (Required by Law)		d. Date of birth			
e. Citizenship	f. Date married to deceased		g. Place of marriage (City, State, Country)				
15. Children of deceased (see page 2 for qualification)							
a. Full name	b. Address	c. Social Security Number (Required by Law)	d. Date of birth	e. Citizenship			
16. Signature of widow/ widower/ guardian							
Telephone No.:							
17. All other persons partially or wholly dependent on deceased for support (see page 2 for instructions)							
a. Full name and address		b. Income for one year preceding death		c. Relationship	d. Age	e. Dependent	
		Source	Amount			Wholly	Partially
Signature		Date (mm/dd/yyyy)				[ ]	[ ]
Guardian? [ ]							
f. Full name and address						[ ]	[ ]
Signature		Date (mm/dd/yyyy)					
Guardian? [ ]							

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Section 31 (a)(1) of the Longshore Act, 33 U.S.C. 931 (a)(1), provides, as follows: Any claimant or representative of a claimant who knowingly and willfully makes a false statement or representation for the purpose of obtaining a benefit or payment under this Act shall be guilty of a felony, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$10,000, by imprisonment not to exceed five years, or by both.

**Instructions:**

1. Use this form to claim death benefits under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, Defense Base Act, Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, or Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities Act. The information provided will be used to determine entitlement to benefits.
2. Submit claim to a Longshore district office of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP/ DLHWC).
3. Individual claims must be filed by or in behalf of each person eligible for benefits [33 U.S.C. 913(a)]. (included are grandchildren, brothers and sisters, under 18 years, parents, step-parents, parents by adoption,

parent-in-laws, and any person who for more than one year prior to the employee's death stood in place of a parent to him/her).

4. Under item 17b, state all sources of income for the year preceding death by source (Social Security pension, bonds, etc.) and amount. List separately support deceased furnished you, including the value of any shelter, food, clothing, or other supplies. Use space below or additional sheets if needed.

5. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB number.

**Conditions of Eligibility****Coverage for Death Benefit**

A death benefit is payable under the Longshore Act, or related law, if a covered employee dies as a result of work-related injury or occupational disease.

**Who is eligible for a Death Benefit?**

1. The deceased worker's widow or widower living with or dependent for support at the time of death; or widow or widower living apart for good cause or because of desertion by worker.
2. Unmarried child (ren) under 18, or if over 18: (a) was (were) wholly dependent on deceased worker and unable to support self (ves) because of mental or physical disability, or (b) student(s) up to age 23 (must meet certain requirements). Includes a posthumous child, legally adopted child, child to whom deceased acted as parent for one year before injury, stepchild, or acknowledged illegitimate child.
3. If the combined amount due a surviving widow or widower and child or children is not greater than two-thirds (66 and 2/3 percent) of the worker's average weekly wages subject to a maximum benefit of 200 percent of the national average weekly wage, a benefit is payable for any one of the following: Grandchildren, brothers or sisters (if dependent at the time of injury), parents, grandparents, or others satisfying legal requirement of a dependency. (Consult the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs for more information).

**What terminates widow's or widower's benefits?**

1. Death
2. Remarriage, in which case the widow or widower received a lump sum payment of two year's compensation.

**What evidence is needed to support a claim?**

1. Certified copy of the death certificate of the deceased worker.
2. Widow or widower. Proof of marriage to deceased worker. If either party was married before, proof that earlier marriage was legally ended. A certified copy of the final divorce decree, or proof of death of a previous marriage partner may be required before benefits are paid.
3. Children – Certified copy of birth certificate or Order of Adoption. If a legal guardian has been appointed, a certified copy of the Letters of Guardianship.

**Time requirement of filing claim**

Within one year of employee's death. The time may not begin to run, however, until the person claiming the benefit would reasonably have related the employee's death to his or her employment. In case of death due to an occupational disease, a claim may be filed within two years after the claimant becomes aware, or in the exercise of reasonable diligence or by reason of medical advice should have been aware, of the relationship between the employment, the disease and the death.

**Use the space below or a separate sheet of paper to continue answers. Please number each answer to correspond to the number of the item being continued.**

**Privacy Act Notice**

(1) The Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA), as amended and extended (33 U.S.C. 901 et seq.) LHWCA is administered by the Office of Workers Compensation Programs of the U.S. Department of Labor which receives and maintains information on claimants and their immediate families. (2) Information which the Office has will be used to determine eligibility for the amount of benefits under the LHWCA. (3) Information may be given to the employer which employed the claimant at the time of injury, or to the insurance carrier or other entity which secured the employer's compensation liability. (4) Information may be given to the physicians and other medical service providers for use in providing treatment or medical/ vocational rehabilitation, making evaluations and for other purposes relating to the medical management of the claim. (5) Information may be given to the Department of Labor's Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ), or other person, board or organization, which is authorized or required to render decisions with respect to the claim or other matter arising in connection with the claim. (6) Information may be given to Federal, state and local agencies for law enforcement purposes, to obtain information relevant to a decision under the LHWCA, to determine whether benefits are being and have been paid properly, and, where appropriate, to pursue salary/administrative offset and debt collection actions required or permitted by law. (7) Failure to disclose all requested information may delay the processing of the claim, the payment of benefits, or may result in an unfavorable decision or reduced level of benefits.

**Note: The notice applies to all forms requesting information that you might receive from the Office in connection with the processing and/or adjudication of the claim you filed under the LHWCA and related statutes.**

**Public Burden Statement**

The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 33.U.S.C. 913 (a). Use of this form is optional, however furnishing the information is required in order to obtain and/or retain benefits. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1215-0160. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 2 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for the reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation, Room C-4315, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

**DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THIS OFFICE.**