

About Australian Funeral Plan

Australian funeral plan is an Australian owned and operated funeral fund which operates as a trustee under the NSW Funeral Funds Act of 1979. Australian Funeral Plan enables you to prepay selected funeral services for tomorrow's funeral at today's prices.

Why prepay your funeral?

Peace of mind for you and your family.

At a stressful time, it could help your family avoid difficult decisions – and prevent any financial worries over how to pay for the funeral costs.

Save money by acting today.

Australian funeral plan allows you to fix some costs at today's prices. So if your funeral director increases prices over the term of your contract, your funeral will still be covered at no extra charge.

Taking out a plan for a loved one.

If you wish, you can take out a funeral plan for someone else in your family, so you can have peace of mind and know that things are organised ahead of time.

Ensure you get the funeral service that you want.

By planning your funeral in advance, you ensure that everything is how you want it to be.

The difference between prepaid funerals and funeral insurance.

Funeral insurance is not provided by Australian Funeral Plan. Funeral insurance involves making a regular set weekly, fortnightly or monthly premium payment which is determined by the policy cover chosen. The policy benefit is then generally paid in a lump sum to your beneficiary in the event of your death. Funeral insurance does not guarantee the payment of your funeral costs.

What to be aware of when purchasing funeral insurance from an insurance company :

- You may end up paying more in funeral insurance premiums than the actual value of your cover
- Failure to miss one premium payment can result in the insurance being cancelled and monies paid all forfeited.

Funeral Bonds

A funeral bond is a financial product offered by some companies which allows you to invest money which is paid out at the time of your funeral. Australian Funeral Plan does not offer funeral bonds at this time.

In contrast, prepaying your funeral through Australian Funeral Plan means that once you have paid off your funeral, all funeral costs outlined in the contract are covered at the time of the funeral. It has the added benefit of planning out your funeral well in advance so that tough decisions are not left to your family in a stressful time.

How do I prepay my funeral with Australian Funeral Plan?

Australian Funeral Plan works with local funeral directors who will tailor a funeral to your needs. Please contact Australian Funeral Plan to find out which funeral directors we work with in the local area.

1. Meet with funeral director and discuss what you would like in a funeral.
2. The Funeral Director will draw up an Australian Funeral Plan Prepaid Contract.
3. Decide whether you will pay up front or set up a direct debit payment plan.
4. Once payment is made (or direct debit plan is set up) you will receive a confirmation letter from AFP, this confirms your contract is active and there is nothing more for you to do.

Paying off your Funeral

Australian Funeral Plan allows you to pay off your prepaid funeral using a Direct Debit payment schedule if you do not wish to pay up front. With a direct debit plan, you can choose to make weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments to pay off your funeral over up to 5 years.

Travel Protection

For those who enjoy travelling or may be away from home for periods of time, the Travel Protection Plan means that transportation costs are covered if death occurs more than 70kms away from the funeral home chosen. The Travel Protection Plan is an optional feature and can be purchased as part of a pre-paid funeral plan, or on its own. Travel Protection only applies to deaths **within Australia**.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can I Change the terms of my Pre-Paid Contract?**

Yes, but your funeral director needs to agree to the changes. Please remember if you do change your original agreement, there may be additional costs.

- **What if I change my mind about my Pre-Paid Funeral Plan?**

A pre-paid funeral plan is a legally binding contract so you need to make sure you understand the terms of agreement before you sign.

There is a 'cooling off' period and during this time you can cancel your contract and get a refund of your investment. Please refer to our Disclosure Document for specific details about the cooling off period. Funds can only be withdrawn for the purpose of meeting your funeral expenses.

- **How is my pre-paid funeral contract claimed?**

A family member or personal representative simply contacts your chosen funeral director and the arrangements, as detailed in your contract, are carried out. Once the funeral director provides evidence to us that the service has taken place, we will then reimburse the funeral director.

- **Which is more common, a burial or cremation?**

More and more people are choosing to be cremated, with cremations now outnumbering burials. Regardless of what others may choose, you need to feel comfortable with your decision. A funeral director can help guide you in making this choice.