NUPSAW

NATIONAL UNION OF PUBLIC SERVICE & ALLIED WORKERS

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13 October 2017

Newsflash

Government Employee

Pension Fund : You Have a

Funeral Benefit at the GEPF.

The GEPF sent out the following circular, keeping its members informed about the increase in the funeral benefit amount payable for the funeral of a member or pensioner and their dependents.

The circular states as follows:

The purpose of a funeral benefit is to help pay the funeral costs when a member or pensioner dies. Your GEPF funeral benefit is also payable for the death of a spouse, life partner or eligible child of a member or pensioner.

We are pleased to inform you that the GEPF Board of Trustees has decided to increase the funeral benefit amount payable for a member or pensioner to **R15000 (Fifteen Thousand Rand)**. The same amount is also payable for the funeral of a member or pensioner's spouse or life partner. For the funeral of an eligible child of a member or pensioner, the benefit has been increased to **R6000 (Six Thousand Rand)**.

An eligible child is considered to be:

1. A natural or legally adopted child under the age of 18 years

2. A natural or legally adopted child between the ages of 18 and 22 years, who is a full-time student

3. A still-born child. This is a child born after 26 weeks of pregnancy who shows no signs of life. The child must have died of natural causes (in a miscarriage) and not as a result of an abortion.

Step children and children of other family members do not qualify for this benefit, unless the member or pensioner has legally adopted them. The funeral benefit is paid out as a taxable cash lump sum. The amount can be paid into a bank account or via the Post Office.

The person submitting the claim to GEPF must complete the following forms and make copies of the specified documents, as follows:

1. The Funeral Benefit Claim form (Z300 form)

2. If the payment must be made into a bank account, the Banking Details form (Z894) should be completed. If payment must be made *via* the Post Office, faxed or emailed copies of all the original documents must be presented at the Post Office

3. A certified copy of the ID document or valid passport of the applicant and the person who died

- 4. A certified copy of the death certificate
- 5. Proof of marriage

Please note that the following documents must also be submitted if the person who died was an eligible child:

- 1. A certified copy of the birth certificate
- 2. Medical proof of disability if the child was over 18 and disabled

3. Proof of student registration if the child was over 18 and a full-time student at a recognised institution

4. Medical proof from the hospital or doctor if the child died in a miscarriage after 26 weeks. This proof could be a letter from the hospital confirming the age and cause of death of the child, as well as the date and place of death

5. If the person claiming is a major child, he or she must provide proof of the relationship with the person who died.

For more information on GEPF services contact the call centre on 0800 117 669