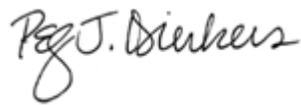


	<b>MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN</b> <b>COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA * DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE</b>	
	<b>SUBJECT</b>  Increased Fees for Funeral Director Services	<b>BY</b>    <b>Peg J. Dierkers, Ph.D.</b> Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance Programs
<b>NUMBER:</b>	22-00-01	
<b>ISSUE DATE:</b>	July 3, 2000	
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	July 3, 2000	

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify funeral directors of a fee increase, effective July 3, 2000.

**SCOPE:**

This bulletin applies to all funeral directors enrolled in the Medical Assistance Program.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

Current regulations at 55 Pa. Code Chapter 285 (relating to Payment for Burial), 285.3(d) provide a maximum payment for basic burial/cremation costs of \$350 for an adult or child 10 years of age or over, \$250 for a child under 10 years of age, and \$85 for a child born dead.

There have been no increases in the maximum payment amount since August 5, 1977. The disparity between the current payment and the rising costs of burial services has continually widened. The Department of Public Welfare has determined that a revision to the maximum burial payment to more realistically reflect current costs is necessary.

**PROCEDURE:**

The Department has amended regulations at 55 Pa.Code 285.3 and the MA Program Fee Schedule to reflect the increase in the amounts available for payment. Effective July 3, 2000, the Department's reimbursement for funeral directors is increased as indicated.

<u>Procedure Code</u>	<u>Description of Service</u>	<u>New MA Fee</u>
Z9194	Adult or Child; 10 or Over - Goods and Services	\$600.00
Z9195	Interment; Actual Charges But Not Over	\$150.00
Z9196	Child Under 10 - Goods and Services	\$600.00
Z9197	Interment; Actual Charges But Not Over	\$150.00
Z9198	Child Born Dead - Goods and Services	\$600.00
Z9199	Interment; Actual Charges But Not Over	\$150.00

All other requirements relating to payment for burial/cremation services remain in effect.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:**

The appropriate toll-free telephone number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at [www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap).