



Department of Families
and Commemoration



State of Israel
Ministry of Defense



Department of Families
and Commemoration



Department of Families
and Commemoration

With eyes
that see,
ears that
listen,
and
a heart
that cares

Dear Family,

The State of Israel maintains a long and unique memory of its fallen soldiers, a memory that lives in our hearts forever - Cast in a shared destiny and a rooted in our sympathy with and recognition of the gravity of such loss.

The Families and Commemoration Department is Israel's official organization designed to express honor and commitment to Israel's fallen soldiers and their families.

The Department's chief purpose is to commemorate the memory of the fallen, to act for the families' welfare, and to provide them with unique, professional and readily available service.

The services provided by the Families and Commemoration Department corresponds to a variety of legislative enactments and bylaws that have substantially evolved throughout the years.

Department employees pursue their work with a sense of profound dedication, and their efforts serve to observe the moral imperative first articulated by David Ben Gurion, who decreed that "the welfare of IDF casualties is an inseparable part of national security."

This booklet is designed to provide you with information on the services granted to bereaved families living abroad by the Ministry of Defense's Families and Commemoration Department.

For further information and in order to make use of the benefits offered by the Department, please contact the representative office close to your place of residence, or the professional officials at the Families and Commemoration Department (see contact information at the end of this booklet).

In addition, regular updates on the Department's efforts are available at the Department's website at: www.mhn.mod.gov.il

We hope that this information shall be of use to you, and we are at your service should you require any additional response, explanations and consultation.

Respectfully Yours,

Arie Mualem

Assistant Director-general, Director
Families and Commemoration Department

Dear Family,

This booklet is designed to present to you, the bereaved families of IDF soldiers permanently residing abroad, vital information regarding the activity of the Families and Commemoration Department.

This booklet will specify the types of benefits to which you are eligible in accordance with and subject to the provisions pertaining to each benefit.

Benefit eligibility corresponds to the Families of Casualties (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Law 5710-1950 ("Law" hereinafter).

Compensation is granted equally in accordance with the medical condition of the person eligible, regardless of their place of residence.

For additional information on the benefits referred to in this booklet, see Ministry of Defense Provisions 83.90, available at the Families and Commemoration Department website.

Commemoration benefit eligibility is granted by virtue of the Military Cemeteries Law 5710-1950, which regulates the matter of the burial and commemoration of IDF casualties.



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Bereaved families



Automatically Granted Monthly/Annual Payments - Application by Eligible Persons not Required

Monthly Compensation

Bereaved parents are eligible to permanent compensation transferred to their account on a monthly basis.

Compensation paid in accordance with the Families of Casualties (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Law 5710-1950 is not taxable in the State of Israel. According to the Law, compensation may not be transferred, mortgaged, used as guarantee or lien in any fashion whatsoever.

Compensation to parents acknowledged as bereaved shall be paid as of the day of their loved one's demise, provided an application is submitted within one year of said demise. If the application is submitted after more than one year had elapsed since their loved one's demise, compensation shall then be paid as of the day of application submission.

Compensation is awarded to parents in accordance with their marital and familial status: two parents, single parents, number of children and age.

Monthly compensation to single parents amounts to 80% of the monthly compensation awarded to two parents.

Additional benefits are granted to parents with other children less than 22 years of age (20% of the first child, and 11% for any additional child).

Parents acknowledged as having lost more than one child are eligible to a 200% compensation.

Parents are required to report to the Compensation Officer of any changes in their marital and familial status: the death of either parent, marriage, divorce, the birth of additional children, etc.

Furthermore, parents are asked to report of any changes in their personal information: address, bank account information, etc.



Convalescence Grant

Parents are eligible to a convalescence grant.

Convalescence pensions include 8 convalescence days for each person, and 16 days for two parents, per the daily convalescence rate paid to Israeli civil servants.

Convalescence pensions are automatically transferred each June.

Grossing Up Provisions: Medications, Purchase Tax, Mobility Fees

These expenses are included within monthly compensation.

Tuition Grant for the Brothers of Casualties Attending the 7th-12th Grade

Parents of children attending the 7th-12th grade shall receive a permanent grant to cover educational expenses.

The grant is automatically granted on an annual basis each August, and is designed to cover the expenses of the school year commencing on September and ending in June the following year. In total, up to six grants may be provided.

Telephone Expenses

Telephone expenses for telephones used in a private residence shall be covered by way of annual returns, and shall be automatically paid each January.



Convalescence Grant following Disasters

Parents are eligible to a one-time convalescence grant following disasters.

The convalescence grant is automatically paid on the third month that had elapsed since the first compensation is paid.

The grant amounts to 15 convalescence days for two parents and 10 convalescence days for a single parent, per civil servant rates.



Payments/Benefits Mandating Application

Childbirth Grant

Bereaved parents who have produced another child after their loss (including in cases of multiple offspring), are eligible to a one-time special needs grant.

Domestic Assistance

Domestic assistance due to medical disabilities

Parents with daily function difficulties who require personal assistance (provided assistance cannot be procured elsewhere) shall contact the Department's representative in her country of origin so as to evaluate her eligibility to nursing hour subsidization. The number of nursing hours is determined in accordance with the functional report given by the applicant's physician on the bereaved family's income, and is subject to an approval provided by the applicant's caregiver, added with their personal information, work hours and the monthly amount paid by the family.

Medical Benefits

Dental Care

Parents are eligible to dental care subsidization, amounting to 50% of actual expenses.

Returns shall be granted based on a treatment plan signed by the dentist, which includes a list of all treatments concluded and the costs of each.

In order to obtain dental care returns, original invoices in the eligible parent's name must be provided. Returns shall be granted per treatment progress.

Invoices may be submitted up to one year following payment and treatment conclusion.



Medications

Automatic monthly compensation includes "grossing up of medications, purchase tax and mobility fees" for medications paid to each parent.

If the monthly expense for medications used once or permanently exceeds this amount, additional compensation may be obtained under the following conditions:

Permanently used medications:

- The medication is approved by the Israeli Ministry of Health.
- The application shall be evaluated by a certified medical official. After principal medical approval is granted, the difference between the cost of medications paid per receipts submitted and the amount automatically paid on a monthly basis shall be returned to the eligible parent.
- Monthly payments are granted for a period of up to one year. At the end of that year, the return application must be renewed.

Medications not regularly used:

- If the medication costs more than 400 NIS per month, the application and the receipts required for submission must be renewed once every three months.
- Returns can be received for any medication costing more than 25 NIS per pack. For this purpose, medical prescriptions and original invoices must be provided by the eligible parent.
- Receipts amounting to 200 NIS or more must be submitted.



Alternative medicine treatments

Subsidization of alternative medicine treatments amounts to up to 20 treatments per year.

Subsidization of alternative treatments shall be provided only for those treatments accredited as such in Provision 81.11.

In order to obtain returns, the eligible parent must submit an original receipt. Exercise of HMO/Complementary Insurance rights is not required.

Private Surgery

Returns for private surgeries concluded may be obtained only after the eligible person had pursued insurance claims abroad.

An eligible person with permanent residence abroad who chooses to carry out the surgery in Israel shall receive payment deducted by excess and complementary insurance, provided the surgery was not conducted in a public hospital or was funded by the HMO.

For surgery subsidization, applicants must contact the Compensation/Medical and Nursing Assistance Unit and present it with the following documents:

- Approval by a medical doctor specifying the nature of the surgery.
- Confirmation of participation/non-participation of complementary insurance.
- Invoice against actual expenses.

Assistance is not provided for cosmetic surgery.



Emergency Cardiological Service Subscription

A parent suffering from heart disease who requires a cardiologist's approval for a cardiobeeper as well as emergency ambulance services may receive partial subsidization of subscription fees.

Eligible persons must submit an invoice in the parent's name, and a complementary insurance confirmation specifying the amount of subsidization granted.

Subsidization of Medical Instruments

Parents are eligible for partial subsidization for the acquisition or lease of medical accessories/instruments. This assistance is provided in addition to the subsidization (deducted by excess insurance) of acquired and listed medical instruments (in cases of unlisted medical instruments, subsidization is not deducted by excess insurance).

Parents residing in a nursing home are exempt from excess insurance.

Support is granted for the maximum amount specified in Annex A of Provision 81.13, and shall not exceed the actual cost of the instrument concerned.


Please contact the Compensation/Medical and Nursing Unit in order to obtain this benefit, and present it with the following documentation:

- Confirmation by a physician certifying the need for the instrument concerned.
- Confirmation by the complementary insurance company certifying the amount covered by the policy.

Medical Consultation

Parents are eligible to partial subsidization of medical consultation with specialists on medical problems or surgical interventions.

Returns shall be granted after an original invoice is presented in the parent's name (or a certified copy in cases whereby the original copy is relayed to the complementary insurance company), as well as a confirmation by the



complementary insurance company certifying the amount covered by the policy.

The amount covered shall be the difference between the amount actually paid and the amount covered by the complementary insurance policy.

Subsidization shall not be granted for consultations on cosmetic treatments and surgery or for psychiatric consultations.

Post-hospitalization Convalescence

Parents hospitalized for four nights or more or who are undergoing chemotherapy or radiation therapy are eligible to subsidization of up to seven days per year (once per each calendar year), per civil servant rates.

In cases of complementary insurance coverage, the Department's assistance shall not exceed the difference between actual payment and insurance coverage.

In order to receive this benefit, please contact the Compensation/Medical and Nursing Unit and provide it with the following documentation:

- If hospitalized for more than 4 nights - Confirmation by the medical center specifying the medical treatment received and the duration of stay.
- Confirmation of the complementary insurance company certifying the amount paid by the policy, following a four nights' hospitalization period.
- Confirmation by the complementary insurance company certifying the amount paid for convalescence.
- In cases of hospitalization due to cardiological problems, confirmation by the complementary insurance company certifying the amount covered must be provided.
- A confirmation certifying the patient's hotel stay, complete with original invoice specifying actual payment, must be provided by the eligible parent.

This benefit can be exercised within 6 weeks of hospitalization conclusion.



Distress Signal

Parents over 65 years of age or younger single parents in possession of a medical approval certifying the need for a distress signal due to chronic disease are eligible to partial subsidization of distress signal installation.

Payment shall be transferred either on a monthly- or a one-time basis.

Applications must be added with an original invoice in the eligible person's name.

Orthopedic Shoes

Parents are eligible to partial subsidization for the acquisition of orthopedic shoes manufactured by a special facility specializing in orthopedic products.

Subsidization is granted for a single pair of shoes each year, and is conditional upon approval by an orthopedist.

Applicants must add an original invoice to their application.

Adult Diapers

Parents in need of adult diapers (a medical confirmation by a physician is needed) are eligible to subsidization.

Eligible parents must add an original invoice to their application.

Telescopic or Macroscopic Lenses

A parent in possession of a Blind Person or Severe Visual Disability Certificate is eligible to lens subsidization, deducted by the amount subsidized by the state authorities in their place of residence.

Applicants must add an original invoice to their application.



Special Lenses/Contact Lenses

Parents in need of glasses or contact lenses due to a chronic eye disease or following surgery are eligible to expense returns.

Returns are also obtainable for lens replacement resulting from such problems.

Applicants must provide the following:

- Confirmation by a medical doctor certifying that the lenses are needed as a result of the disease/surgical intervention. In case of surgery, eligibility remains in effect for 6 months following surgery conclusion.
- Confirmation by the complementary insurance company certifying the amount covered by the policy.
- Original invoice.



Social Services Unit

Parents are eligible to psychotherapy for a period of one year by certified psychotherapists approved by Department personnel.

Support is contingent upon receipt submission and corresponds to Departmental rates.

Siblings are eligible to individual psychotherapy sessions for a period of one year, provided by therapists approved by Department personnel.

Sibling support is contingent upon receipt submission and corresponds to Departmental rates.

Treatment period extension for parents/siblings by up to three years mandates approval by the pertinent professional at the Families and Commemoration Department.

Vocational Training and Academic Studies

Parents who did not pursue their eligibility to financial-independent rehabilitation are eligible to a one-time tuition grant. The grant corresponds to tuition levels at Israeli public universities.

Vocational training courses - For parents up to 65 years of age - For a standard attendance periods. Grants shall not exceed annual tuition required by Israeli public universities.

One-time grants for extracurricular courses not necessary for trade obtainment - For parents up to 65 years of age, up to one year only. Grants shall not exceed annual tuition required by Israeli public universities.

Undergraduate studies grants - For parents up to 60 years of age - Grants shall be provided only for the standard period of time required for degree conclusion.



Department of Families
and Commemoration

Widows and Orphans



Automatically Granted Monthly/Annual Payments - Application by Eligible Persons not Required

Monthly Compensation - Widows

An acknowledged widow (in accordance with the "Families of Casualties Law") is eligible to permanent compensation transferred to her account on a monthly basis.

The compensation varies in accordance with the age of the widow, the number of children, their age and whether or not her children are IDF servicemen.

A childless widow is eligible to a 98% monthly compensation (compared with a widow with adult children).

According to the Law, compensation may not be transferred, mortgaged, used as guarantee or lien in any fashion whatsoever.

Widows with Children Up to 18 years of Age

A widow with an orphan child up to 18 years of age is eligible to monthly compensation, grossing up included.

For any additional child up to 21 years of age, the widow is eligible to an additional 11% of monthly compensation (grossing up not included).

Widows with Children Over 18 Years of Age

A widow with an orphan child over 18 years of age and below 21 years of age is eligible to monthly compensation (grossing up included).



Widows with Children 21 Years of Age or Older

Widows whose children have matured and who are 21 years of age or older are entitled to compensation amounting to 89% of the compensation to which a widow with a single child up to 21 years of age is eligible. A widow with an orphan child 21 years of age or older shall continue to receive compensation so long as they continue their regular IDF service.

Compensation to widows with adult children includes grossing up.

Widows with Children 22-24 Years of Age

A widow with an orphan child 21-24 years of age shall receive an additional pension for each child of that age.

Widows with Children 24 Years of Age or Older

A widow yet to turn 60, whose children are over 24, shall receive an additional 10% pension.

Any Acknowledged Widow Over 60 Years of Age

A widow 60 years of age or older shall receive an additional 10% pension.

Compensation paid in accordance with the Families of Casualties (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Law 5710-1950 is not taxable.



Convalescence Grant

A widow is entitled to a convalescence grant.

Convalescence pensions include 8 convalescence days, per the daily convalescence rate paid to civil servants.

Convalescence pensions are automatically transferred each June.

Special Widows' Grant/Periodical Grant (Every 7 Years)

A widow is entitled, in addition to her ordinary compensation, to a one-time grant designed to cover special expenses upon her becoming a widow. Furthermore, once every seven years following her becoming a widow, she shall be entitled to an additional grant in addition to her regular compensation (per current rates).

Monthly Telephone Maintenance Subsidization

Annual grants shall be paid so as to cover telephone maintenance expenses (upon the January of each year).

Receipt submission is not mandated.

Post-disaster Convalescence Grant

A widow is entitled, following a disaster, to a one-time convalescence grant.

The grant shall be automatically paid on the third month following the first compensation payment.

Each orphan shall entitle the widow to a 30% widow grant.



Orphan Tuition Grant (Elementary + Post-elementary)

Widows with children who are IDF orphans are entitled to a grant designed to cover extracurricular activities and school-related expenses.

Grants are automatically transferred to widows on each August.

Widows acknowledged as such after the month of August shall be paid proportionally, as of the month of her acknowledgement and until the conclusion of the school year concerned, without requiring application.

Bar-mitzvah Grant

Orphans 12-13 years of age shall be entitled to a grant upon their coming of age.

The grant shall be transferred to the Bar/Bat-mitzvah's parent or guardian.

Driving Lessons for Orphans (Automatic)

Upon reaching 17 years of age, a one-time grant shall be given to orphans "automatically" so as to cover driving lessons.



Payments/Benefits Mandating Application

Pregnancy Grant

Widows who were pregnant at the time of their loved one's death are eligible to an additional compensation as of the seventh month of her pregnancy and until childbirth. The additional compensation amounts to one third of the monthly compensation to which she is entitled upon payment.

Pregnant widows are required to provide a medical confirmation certifying the progress of her pregnancy so as to obtain the grant.

Childbirth Grant

Widows who were pregnant at the time of their loved one's death is eligible to a special childbirth grant. The grant amounts to three months' compensation provided to childless widows. The grant is uniform and fixed, regardless of the number of offspring. In order to obtain the grant, the widow must submit a birth certificate of her child to the Families and Commemoration Department Compensation Unit.

Domestic Assistance

Domestic assistance due to medical disabilities

Domestic assistance due to medical disabilities

Widows with daily function difficulties who require personal assistance based on a medical opinion (provided assistance cannot be procured elsewhere) shall contact the Department's representative in her country of origin so as to evaluate her eligibility to nursing hour subsidization. The number of nursing hours is determined in accordance with the functional report given by the applicant's physician on the widow's income, and is subject to an approval provided by the applicant's caregiver, added with their personal information, work hours and the monthly amount paid by the family.



Medical Benefits

Dental Care

Widows are eligible to dental care subsidization for her and her orphan children up to 18 years of age.

Returns shall be granted based on the widow's/orphan's treatment plan signed by the dentist, which includes a list of all treatments concluded and the costs of each.

Subsidization amounts to 50% of actual payment (accounting for insurance policy coverage), and in any event to no more than 15,000 NIS per year for widows and 4,000 NIS per year for orphans. This benefit defines a year as a 12 months period commencing on 1 July and ending on 30 June the following year.

Medications

Widows are eligible to medication subsidization.

Permanently used medications:

A medical confirmation listing the widow's regularly-used medications and their monthly dosage must be provided, added with the original invoices of the last three months in the widow's name.

The application shall be evaluated by a certified medical official.

After principal medical confirmation is granted, a monthly return shall be given regularly for a period of up to one year.

This application must be renewed annually.

If the medication costs more than 400 NIS per month, the application and the receipts required for submission must be renewed once every three months.

Medications not regularly used:

Returns can be obtained for each medication costing more than 25 NIS per dose. For this purpose, the widow must provide prescriptions and original invoices in her name.

Invoices are to be submitted in groups of 200 NIS or more.



Medical Instruments

This assistance is provided in addition to the subsidization (deducted by excess insurance) of acquired and listed medical instruments (in cases of unlisted medical instruments, subsidization is not deducted by excess insurance). Widows residing in a nursing home are exempt from excess insurance.

Support is granted for the maximum amount specified in Annex A of Provision 81.25, and shall not exceed the actual cost of the instrument concerned.

Please contact the Compensation/Medical and Nursing Unit in order to obtain this benefit, and present it with the following documentation:

- Confirmation by a physician certifying the need for the instrument concerned (provided the complementary insurance policy does not already cover the cost of the instrument).
- Confirmation by the complementary insurance company certifying the amount covered by the policy.
- Original invoice certifying actual payment (or a certified copy should the invoice be needed for additional coverage).

Please note: the instruments may be acquired or leased via organizations such as Yad Sarah and Ezer MiZion.

Emergency Cardiological Service Subscription

A widow suffering from heart disease who requires a cardiologist's approval for a cardiobeeper as well as emergency ambulance services may receive partial subsidization of subscription fees.

Eligible widows must submit an invoice in their name, and a complementary insurance confirmation specifying the amount of subsidization granted.



Medical Consultation

Widows are eligible, once a year, to partial subsidization of medical consultation with specialists on medical problems or surgical interventions.

Returns shall be granted after an original invoice is presented in the widow's name, as well as a confirmation by the complementary insurance company certifying the amount covered by the policy.

Subsidization will not be provided for cosmetic surgery and psychiatric consultation.

Psychiatric consultation shall be provided under different conditions.

Distress Signal

Widows over 65 years of age in possession of a medical approval certifying the need for a distress signal due to chronic disease are eligible to partial subsidization of distress signal installation.

Payment shall be transferred either on a monthly- or a one-time basis.

Applications must be added with an original invoice in the eligible person's name.

Confirmation and payments shall be granted for a period of up to 24 months.

Orthopedic Shoes

Widows are eligible to partial subsidization for the acquisition of orthopedic shoes manufactured by a special facility specializing in orthopedic products.

Subsidization is granted for a single pair of shoes each year, and is conditional upon approval by an orthopedist.

The return granted shall be deducted by excess insurance.

Applicants must add an original invoice to their application.



Special Lenses/Contact Lenses

A widow is eligible to subsidization of telescopic and microscopic lenses when:

- The widow is in possession of a Blind Person or Severe Visual Disability Certificate.
- The Ministry of Labor and Welfare's "Rehabilitation of Poor Vision Institute" has provided the widow with a recommendation.
- The Blind Person Center has provided a confirmation certifying its partial subsidization.

This benefit covers the difference between the amount covered by the Ministry of Labor and Welfare and the Blind Person Center, provided that the lenses were purchased at the Rehabilitation of Poor Vision Institute or from an organization to which the widow was referred by the Institute.

Widows must add an original invoice to their application.

Telescopic or Macroscopic Lenses

A widow in possession of a Blind Person or Severe Visual Disability Certificate is eligible to lens subsidization, deducted by the amount subsidized by the state authorities in their place of residence.

Applicants must add an original invoice in their name to their application.

Adult Diapers

Widows in need of adult diapers (a medical confirmation by a physician is needed) are eligible to subsidization.

Eligible widows must add an original invoice in their name to their application.



Driving Lessons for Orphans

Orphans who have lost their parent between the ages of 17 and 21 shall be eligible to subsidization of driving lessons, provided this benefit is exercised before they reach 30 years of age.

Applicants must provide an invoice in the orphan's name.

Orphan Marriage Grant

A widow is eligible to subsidization of her orphan child's marriage (provided the orphan was yet to be 21 years of age upon his father's demise, even if they had married at the age of 30). To obtain this benefit, please contact the Families and Commemoration Department Compensation Unit within one year of the wedding.

This benefit is granted on a one-time basis for each orphan separately.



Social Services Unit

Widows are eligible to psychotherapy for a period of one year by certified psychotherapists approved by Department personnel.

Support is contingent upon receipt submission and corresponds to Departmental rates.

Orphans regardless of age are eligible to psychotherapy for a period of one year by therapists approved by the Department.

This benefit shall be provided by way of returns granted per invoice submission at Department rates.

Therapy period extension for widows/orphans by up to three years mandates approval by the pertinent professional at the Families and Commemoration Department.

Irregular applications mandate special approval.

Vocational Training and Academic Studies

Widows of working age are eligible to academic or vocational training subsidization, in accordance with the Retirement Age Law 5764-2004.

Benefit Criteria:

- A widow who did not in the past receive support for academic or vocational training, or for independent rehabilitation, and is without trade and has no further income beyond her compensation, is eligible to academic training for the purpose of acquiring a trade and so as to secure her professional-vocational rehabilitation.
- In addition, an annual grant shall be provided for the acquisition of books.
- If the academic program pursued by the widow exceeds one year, the application is to be renewed annually.
- Support may also be given to widows pursuing academic studies in accredited institutions abroad. Support shall be provided at Israeli rates and shall be granted in NIS.



Subsidization is contingent upon receipt submission.

As the subject of academic studies is complex, the Family Rehabilitation Unit must be contacted for further assistance.

Commemoration Unit

Uniformity of Cemeteries

In the interest of keeping the appearance of military cemeteries and tombstones fully uniform, we would ask the families to avoid the addition of any items to the tombstone. This includes trees planted next to the tombstone.

Personal Inscriptions

Relatives, namely, spouses and parents, may submit an application for adding a personal inscription on the tombstone. The application shall be submitted with the consent of all other relatives and in accordance with regulations.

The application shall be submitted in writing to the District Commemoration Director, in whose district the fallen soldier is buried, and the length of the inscription shall not exceed 48 letters in two lines.

Erection of Military Tombstone

The Commemoration Unit and the Families and Commemoration Department erect uniform military tombstones.

The tombstone is erected until the thirtieth day. Prior to this day, the family shall be presented with the tombstone's inscription based on the fallen soldier's personal information and the circumstances of their demise, in accordance with military cemetery regulations.



Erection of Civilian Tombstones

A family that chooses to bury its loved on in a civilian cemetery is eligible to subsidization of its loved one's tombstone, subject to invoice submission.

Tombstones for Persons with Disabilities Who Had Died Due to Their Disability

Bereaved parents and spouses of persons with disabilities who had died due to their disabilities (and their families were acknowledged as bereaved in accordance with the "Casualties Law"), or their next of kin, are eligible to subsidization of the deceased's tombstone subject to submission of an original invoice to the Commemoration Unit up to one year following tombstone erection.

A person with disabilities who upon their death had 100% disability or more is eligible to a military tombstone.

Subsidization of Graves

Bereaved parents and spouses of the deceased are eligible to subsidization of the deceased's grave, subject to submission of an invoice certifying the acquisition of the grave. This benefit may not be obtained retroactively.

Tombstones for Parents and Widows

The Families and Commemoration Department subsidizes the erection of tombstones of bereaved parents and spouses, subject to the submission of an original invoice to the Commemoration Unit.

Application may be submitted within one year of the deceased person's death, and may not be submitted retroactively.



Annual Memorial Expenses

Annual memorial expenses shall be covered by the eligible person's compensation on an annual basis. These expenses shall be paid upon the month in which the memorial is due to take place.

Parents and widows who do not receive monthly compensation are required to contact the Commemoration Unit - Families and Overseas Liaison, in order to obtain this benefit. As of the date of submission, the amount shall be transferred each year on a regular basis.

In the absence of parents, one of the brothers (representing the family) is eligible to memorial expenses.

In the absence of widows, memorial expenses shall be transferred to the orphans' representative.

The purpose of this benefit is to provide the family with assistance, and is not designed to cover all memorial expenses.

Commemoration Grant

A commemoration grant is provided to each family on a one-time basis and is automatically transferred 12 months after the fallen soldier's death.

Families whose loved one had died before April 2005 and who have yet to receive a commemoration grant are required to contact the Commemoration Unit for the purpose of obtaining the grant. In addition, the Commemoration Unit can provide families with consultation on commemoration methods.

Flying Tickets for Bereaved Families Living Overseas

First-degree relatives living abroad or who were abroad at the time of their loved one's death shall be flown to Israel via the Israeli representative close to their residence or location, so as to attend their loved one's funeral.

Family members who acquired tickets not via the Israeli representative are asked to submit their flying ticket to the IDF Casualties Department, or directly to the Commemoration Unit, so as to obtain a refund for their tickets.



Annual Visits for Families Living Abroad Whose Loved One Is Buried in Israel

Parents, spouses, orphans and siblings until 18 years of age who have a permanent residence abroad, at least one year long in duration, are eligible, once a year upon the date of the deceased's death (Hebrew or Gregorian date), or upon Memorial Day, are entitled to visit the grave of their loved one.

Siblings over 18 years of age are entitled to a visit once every five years.

The support granted by the Ministry of Defense includes a two-way ticket, a 6-night hotel room, or expenses throughout the person's stay, as well as traveling expenses abroad from the person's home to the airport and vice versa, and from the airport to the cemetery and vice versa in Israel.

Applicants must contact the nearest Israeli representative, which will relay the application to the Families and Overseas Liaison Unit.



Izkor Website - www.izkor.gov.il

This website is dedicated to the commemoration of IDF casualties.

The site includes a personal presentation of each fallen soldier, their life story, photograph and place of burial.

The Commemoration and Legacy Department contacts the families several months after the fallen soldier's death, and asks to obtain written material on and a photograph of the deceased.

The information may be submitted by email or in person.

The deceased's photograph and life story will be published only at the consent of the family.

For further information and assistance, please send an email to: izkor@mod.gov.il



Families and Commemoration Department

The Department's offices are situated at the Ministry of Defense Building, Yakov Dori Rd. POB 679, Kiryat Ono, Postal Code: 80155

The Department has regional offices in Jerusalem, Haifa, Kiryat Ono, Beer Sheva, Rehovot and Tiberias.

Families and Commemoration Department Call Center: 972-3-7776700

We are at your disposal at all times if you have any questions, and are dedicated to assist you with kindness, warmth and our deepest sympathies.