

KPERS Retiree Death Benefit

It's hard to think about your own funeral. But planning ahead can avoid a lot of stress when the time comes. As a KPERS member, you have a retiree death benefit that can help your loved ones pay for funeral expenses.



\$6,000 Death Benefit for Your Beneficiaries

When you die, KPERS pays a \$6,000 death benefit to your beneficiaries. Here is what you need to know about the benefit, plus some information to share with them.

- You can name a person, estate, trust or a funeral establishment to receive the \$6,000 benefit.
- Your beneficiaries can assign it to a funeral establishment.
- Your beneficiaries aren't required to use the benefit for funeral expenses.
- If you've named more than one beneficiary, one can assign his or her share to a funeral establishment while the others keep theirs.
- If you name a funeral establishment to receive your \$6,000 death benefit, you also need to name a primary beneficiary to receive any other benefits.
- Only the \$6,000 death benefit can be paid to a funeral establishment.
- KPERS does not pay the \$6,000 benefit automatically. Your beneficiaries need to contact KPERS when the time comes to receive an application. It cannot be prepaid.

Who Pays the Taxes?

Who Receives It	Responsible for Taxes
Funeral Establishment	Funeral Establishment KPERS will send a 1099-R to the funeral home the next January.
Beneficiary - Directly	Beneficiary KPERS will withhold 20% for federal taxes and send your beneficiary a 1099-R in January
Beneficiary - Assigns it to a Funeral Home	Beneficiary KPERS will withhold 20% for federal taxes and send them a 1099-R the next January.

Check Your Beneficiaries

Remember to check your beneficiaries once a year or if you have a life event (marriage, death or job change). You can make changes anytime in your online KPERS account or by submitting a new Designation of Beneficiary-Retired form available at kspers.gov.