



# ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF IRELAND

## **Tailored Burial Policy for Covid-19 Victims**

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### **Abbreviations:**

<b>IFI</b>	Islamic Foundation of Ireland
<b>ICCI</b>	Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland/Clonskeagh Mosque
<b>ECFR</b>	European Council of Fatwa and Research

# Guidelines

Please read this policy carefully

## Topics covered:

1. Washing the body (*Ghusl*)
  2. Transport
  3. Prayer
  4. Social distancing
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### 1. Washing the body (*Ghusl*)

Washing a COVID 19 victim: IFI staff and ICCI staff **will not** coordinate or partake in the washing *ghusl* nor the dry ablution *Tayammum* of the deceased

COVID 19 victims **will not** be:

- i. Washed *ghusl* or undergo dry ablution *Tayammum* in hospitals or funeral homes
- ii. Shrouded in hospitals or funeral homes

The Muslim community must do its part in helping mitigate the spread of COVID 19, and as such washing the body not only places additional pressure on hospital staff (particularly due to limited resources) but it also poses a high risk to the living contracting the virus.

NOTE: Families are not obliged to wash *ghusl* the body or do a dry ablution *Tayammum* for COVID 19 victims in light of the fatwa issued by the ECFR.

**The body CANNOT be shrouded before being placed in a body bag**

**(COVID 19 victims must be buried in a coffin).**

### 2. Transport

COVID 19 victims **will NOT** be brought to the ICCI for *ghusl* or Janaazah prayer, they will be transported directly to the cemetery.

### 3. Prayer

Janaazah prayer **will NOT** be prayed in the IFI or ICCI due to COVID 19.

Janaazah prayer **WILL BE PRAYED** at the cemetery (While keeping a 2-meter distance from others)

### 4. Social Distancing

People **MUST travel in separate cars** to the cemetery unless they are part of the same family who have been social distancing in the same house together.

**Please attempt to minimise\* the numbers of people to safeguard the health and welfare of others as per government and HSE guidelines.**

**\*The government has advised that no more than ten people at a time should attend funerals\***

**Self-Isolation: any family member who has been asked to self-isolate must do so and not attend the funeral.**

## Expenses for the burial

When a Muslim dies; the family of the deceased will call the Islamic Foundation of Ireland for help in carrying out the burial.

The Islamic Foundation of Ireland does not charge the family any money for their assistance in arranging the burial affairs however there are expenses for other services.

Standard Price: minors & adults	Standard price: infants under 3 years	Saturday Burial
County Council: €1,520	County Council: €100	County Council: €1,705
Grave Digger: €500	Grave Digger: €150 Grave digger: €170 (Saturday)	Grave digger: €520 adult Grave digger : €170 infant
Coffin for the deceased: €440 (mandatory for the deceased with COVID 19)	Undertakers: n/a	Undertakers: €300
Undertakers: €300.00		
Total: €2,320 (without coffin) Total: €2,760 (with coffin)	Total: €250 €270 (for a Saturday)	Total: €2,525 (without a coffin) Total: €2,965 (with coffin)
Please note in some cases, the Undertakers may need to hire a hearse which will incur an additional €320.00 fee.		

### Single plot vs. family plot

Definitions:

- Single plot: one separate designated grave space for the burial of one person
- Family plot: one designated grave space used to bury up to three people (at separate occasions)

Please note the following:

- The Dublin County Council charge less for family plots (contact the office for more information).
- The deceased must be buried in a coffin if you choose a family plot
- The price of the coffin is included (for the family plot)
- In some cases, only two people can be buried in a family plot

Prices are subject to vary depending on extenuating circumstances.

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## Roles of the family/ designated person

**\*Note:** there should only be **one** contact person from the family throughout the burial

### Online Tasks and Paying Expenses:

1. **Complete** the online burial application available on IFI website, also link available [here](#).

**NOTE:** No arrangements for the burial can proceed until the application has been submitted

2. Pay the expenses on the same day/ following day in cash at the Islamic Foundation of Ireland
  - 163 South Circular Road, Merchants Quay, Dublin 8, D08 F642
  - Office hours: 10am – 4pm

**NOTE:** if the family member/ designated person were in close proximity to the COVID 19 victim, they must assign someone else to come and pay the expenses of the funeral

### Hospital

COVID 19 victims **will not be:**

- Washed *ghusl* or undergo dry ablution *Tayammum* in hospitals or funeral homes
- Shrouded in hospitals or funeral homes
  - The hospital staff will be responsible for placing the deceased in a body bag
  - The Undertakers will collect the deceased from the hospital, place them in a coffin and deliver the deceased directly to the cemetery. Thereafter the deceased will be buried in the coffin.

### Going to the Cemetery

3. The family member/ designated person will make their way to the cemetery to attend the burial.

They may follow the Undertakers, leave with the IFI staff (from Dublin Mosque) or make their own way to the cemetery (instructions will be provided by the IFI Administration)

### Burying the deceased

4. When the deceased arrives at the cemetery, Janaazah prayer will be performed and the body will be buried in the coffin.

**NOTE:** the body will not be taken out of the coffin

## The roles of the IFI

1. When a family member of the deceased calls, – the Islamic Foundation of Ireland (IFI) will instruct them to go to the IFI website [www.islamicfoundation.ie](http://www.islamicfoundation.ie) in order to;
  - i. Read the Burial Policy: TAILORED BURIAL POLICY FOR COVID 19 VICTIMS
  - ii. Fill in the “[Online Burial Application](#)”
2. Meet with the family member/designated person to obtain the expenses of the burial

**NOTE: do not come in close contact with anyone that has been in close proximity to a confirmed COVID 19 victim or one who has symptoms of COVID 19**

3. Provide relevant updates to concerned parties
4. The Islamic Foundation of Ireland will:
  - acquire a plot number (in the cemetery) from the County Council
  - arrange a grave digger to dig the grave and bury the deceased
  - arrange for the making of a coffin for the deceased to be buried
  - facilitate payment to all the necessary parties
  - may also provide an invoice for the expenses of the burial (upon request of the family) in order to seek a reimbursement from the welfare office
5. The Islamic Foundation of Ireland will also coordinate the transportation of the body with the Undertakers to the necessary locations (when applicable):
  - To collect the coffin that the deceased will be buried in
  - Cemetery for the burial

**\*Note: there should only be one contact person from the family throughout the burial**

Headstones	Plaques
<p>We do not recommend the purchase of a headstone as it is not in keeping with the Islamic tradition. The money would be better spent in charity on behalf of the deceased.</p> <p>See the link for further details:  <a href="https://islamicfoundation.ie/site/assets/files/1080/skm_c25821090913001.pdf">https://islamicfoundation.ie/site/assets/files/1080/skm_c25821090913001.pdf</a></p> <p>Obtaining a headstone requires the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Planning permission: an application form (“Application for a headstone permit SDCC from 1.3.2021”) must be completed and returned to the county council.</li> <li>b. a fee of €490.00</li> <li>c. Fees for the actual headstone</li> </ol> <p>For further information contact the county council @ 014149234.</p>	<p>Our recommendation (as per the Islamic tradition) would be to purchase a <b>plaque</b> instead.</p> <p>It is far cheaper and requires no planning permission:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Plaques are approximately €100.00 only.</u></p> <p>See the link for more details on plaques:  <a href="https://www.fingalmemorials.ie/view-cats.php?psc_id=34">https://www.fingalmemorials.ie/view-cats.php?psc_id=34</a></p>

## Sources

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[https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/coronavirus-133-patients-in-intensive-care-as-pressure-on-hospitals-builds-1.4216780?mode=amp&localLinksEnabled=false&utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=Coronavirus%3A+133+patients+in+intensive+care+as+pressure+on+hospitals+builds&utm\\_campaign=lunchtime\\_latest\\_digest](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/coronavirus-133-patients-in-intensive-care-as-pressure-on-hospitals-builds-1.4216780?mode=amp&localLinksEnabled=false&utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Coronavirus%3A+133+patients+in+intensive+care+as+pressure+on+hospitals+builds&utm_campaign=lunchtime_latest_digest)

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/socialinclusion/interculturalguide/islam/islam.pdf>

## Disclaimer

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## Further information

Islamic Foundation of Ireland  
163 South Circular Road, Merchants Quay, Dublin 8, D08 F642

T: (00 353 1) 4533 242  
E: [info@islamicfoundation.ie](mailto:info@islamicfoundation.ie)  
W: [www.islamicfoundation.ie](http://www.islamicfoundation.ie)

Office hours: 10am – 4pm