



ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF IRELAND

Tailored Burial Policy for Covid-19 Victims

Contents

Guidelines	3
Expenses for the burial	4
Roles of the family/ designated person	5
The roles of the IFI	6
Sources	7
Disclaimer	8
Further information	8

Abbreviations:

IFI	Islamic Foundation of Ireland
ICCI	Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland/Clonskeagh Mosque
ECFR	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 box).

2. Transport

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

3. Prayer

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

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

4. Social Distancing

People **MUST travel in separate cars to the graveyard** 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. No more than four people should gather and only family members may be in close proximity.

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

- County Council €1520
- Grave Digger €450
- Box for the deceased €400 (mandatory due to COVID 19)
- Undertakers €280

Total: €2,650.00

For infants (under three years)

- County Council €100
- Grave Digger €150
- Undertakers n/a

Total: €250.00

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)

Separate Single Plot	One Family plot (maximum of 3 burials)
Total Price for 1 st burial €2,250	Total price for 1 st burial €2,650
Total price for single plots is always €2,250	Total price for 2 nd burial €1,590
	Total price for 3 rd burial €1,590

Price Difference	
Burying two people in separate single plots €4,500	Burying two people in a family plot €4,240
Burying three people in separate single plots €6,750	Burying three people in a family plot €5,830

Please note the following:

- The Dublin County Council charge less for family plots.
- The deceased must be buried in a box if you choose a family plot
- The price of the box is included in the above figures (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.

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 box and deliver the deceased directly to the graveyard. Thereafter the deceased will be buried in the box.

Going to the Graveyard

3. The family member/ designated person will follow the undertakers to the graveyard

NOTE: People are strongly advised to travel in separate cars to the graveyard

Burying the deceased

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

NOTE: the body will not be taken out of the box

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 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 box 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 box 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**

Sources

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/funeraldirectorsguidance/Guidance%20Funeral%20Directors%20v1.3.pdf>

<file:///C:/Users/fares/Downloads/COVID-19-safe-handling-of-bodies-or-persons-dying-from-COVID19.pdf>

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<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/COVID-19-infection-prevention-and-control-healthcare-settings-march-2020.pdf>

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

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Further information

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