

<b>State of Alaska</b> Mike Dunleavy Governor	<b>Alaska Workers' Compensation Division</b> PO Box 115512 Juneau, Alaska 99811-5512		
<b>Department of Labor and Workforce Development</b>	<b>BULLETIN</b>	<b>Number</b> 25-05	<b>Date</b> December 12, 2025
Catherine Muñoz Commissioner	<b>SUBJECT REFERENCE</b>	Death Benefits AS 23.30.215	

**Payment for fatalities on or after January 1, 2026, but on or before December 31, 2026.**

**1. Death benefits payable per AS 23.30.215(a)(2)(A) - widow or widower with no children:**

The weekly compensation rate is 80% of the spendable weekly wage, up to a maximum weekly compensation payment of \$1,627.

- If the spendable weekly wage is \$2,034 or greater (80% of \$2,034 = \$1,627) then the weekly benefit maximum of \$1,627 is applicable.
- If the spendable weekly wage is less than \$2,034, then the weekly benefit amount is 80% of the spendable weekly wage.

**2. Death benefits payable per AS 23.30.215(a)(2)(B) - widow or widower and one child:**

a) If the employee's spendable weekly wage is \$1,808 or above (90% of \$1,808 = \$1,627), the weekly compensation payments are fixed at:

- for the widow or widower: \$904/wk (50% of \$1,808)
- for the child: \$723/wk (40% of \$1,808)

b) If the employee's spendable weekly wage is below \$1,808, use the following formula:

- for the widow or widower: employee's spendable weekly wage X .5
- for the child: employee's spendable weekly wage X .4

**3. Death benefits payable per AS 23.30.215(a)(2)(C) - widow or widower and two or more children:**

a) If the employee's spendable weekly wage is \$1,627 or above, the payments are fixed at:

- for the widow or widower: \$488/wk (30% of \$1,627)
- for the children: \$1,139/wk (70% of \$1,627)

b) If the employee's spendable weekly wage is below \$1,627, use the following formula:

- for the widow or widower: employee's spendable weekly wage X .3
- for the children: employee's spendable weekly wage X .7

**4. Death benefits payable per AS 23.30.215(a)(2)(D) and 23.30.215(a)(2)(E) - only one child and no widow or widower, or two or more children and no widow or widower:**

a) If the employee's spendable weekly wage is \$1,627 or above, the payments are fixed at:

- for the only child: \$1,627/wk
- for two or more children: \$1,627/wk divided equally among the children.

b) If the employee's spendable weekly wage is below \$1,627, 100% of the spendable weekly wage is due as follows:

- for the only child: employee's weekly spendable wage
- for two or more children: employee's weekly spendable wage equally divided among the children.

**5. Compensation may not be less than \$75 for a widow or widower nor less than \$25 weekly to a child or \$50.00 for children, per AS 23.30.215(b).**

**6. There is a one-time death benefit of \$8,000 payable a surviving widow or widower, or equally divided among surviving children, per AS 23.30.215(a)(5).**

**7. There is a maximum funeral benefit of \$12,000 per AS 23.30.215(a)(1).**

**8. If widow or widower remarries, there is a one-time lump settlement payment equal to 104 weeks, per AS 23.30.215(a)(3).**

**9. Under AS 23.30.215(a)(4), if the deceased injured worker had no spouse or children at the time of the injury that caused death,** the father, mother, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters if dependent on the deceased injured worker at the time of injury, then the weekly compensation rate is calculated at 42% of the spendable weekly wage up to the maximum weekly benefit of \$1,627 and up to an aggregate cap of \$150,000. The benefits are to be shared equally among eligible dependents.

10. Death benefit payments to a “child,” under AS 23.30.215(a)(2)(D) or (E)” are payable up to age 23, unless they are wholly dependent and are incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical disability. In addition, death benefits to these family members are payable regardless of age for the first four years of college or vocational/trade school or if they are attending high school. (See AS 23.30.395(8))

This is not a complete listing of all aspects of workers’ compensation death benefits under AS 23.30.215. For more information, please refer to the statute or contact the Division of Workers’ Compensation.