

## Funeral Bonds

Putting money aside for a funeral is not always at the forefront of people's minds. It can, however, be a smart investment and one that you may want to consider.

A funeral can be an expensive event. Costs vary greatly but often include a casket, burial, cemetery fees, hiring a venue, flowers, funeral director expenses and more. At a difficult time for your family, worrying about funding the funeral can add further stress to the situation.

A funeral bond is a sensible way to ensure that your loved ones don't have to worry about paying for the funeral, because the money has already been set aside.

A funeral bond is an investment that provides payment for funeral costs. It is only payable when you die, but you choose how you want it to be paid. You can assign the funds to a nominated funeral director, or have it paid to your estate.

It's a smart way to plan for the future without affecting your Centrelink or Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) pension. That's because money invested in a funeral bond, up to \$13,250, is exempt from Centrelink and DVA assets testing. In some circumstances, investing in a funeral bond can result in a slight increase to a person's pension.

Funeral bonds are investments that carry little risk because your investment is guaranteed. You must, however, be willing to invest your money and receive no direct benefit back from the investment until you die.

The table below summarises some of the benefits of a funeral bond. Speak to us to find out if a funeral bond may be appropriate for your situation.

The benefits of funeral bonds	
<b>Peace of mind</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take the financial worry away from your family.</li> <li>• Have some input into what happens when you pass away.</li> </ul>
<b>Flexibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You choose how much to invest.</li> <li>• You can invest as a lump sum or in instalments.</li> <li>• You decide how the money will be used when you pass away.</li> </ul>
<b>Tax-effective investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any bonuses or growth in the value of your investment does not need to be included in your tax return.</li> </ul>

<b>Security for your money</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Your original investment, any additional investments, plus bonuses paid during the life of the investment are guaranteed.</li></ul>
<b>Won't negatively affect your Centrelink or DVA pension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provided the total amount of money you have invested in funeral bonds is less than \$13,250, Centrelink nor the DVA will count the value of the bond when assessing your pension eligibility.</li></ul>

If this sounds like something you need to explore, or review what you already have, please feel free to fill in the form here: <https://www.fasttrackwealth.com.au/contact-us/>

Or contact Adam on 07 3263 4123