

# Additional Death Grant – FAQs

## 1. Who is the additional death grant applicable to?

### Rule 1C(1) of Part 5 as amended by SI 2026/281

This rule applies where a person—

- (a) first took up employment as a retained firefighter before 5 April 2006<sup>1</sup>;
- (b) elected, was eligible to have elected, or would have been eligible but for their death to have elected, to join this Scheme under the first options exercise (under rule 6A of Part 11) in respect of the person's service during the limited period, and
- (c) died before 1 April 2026<sup>2</sup> and without making an election under the second options exercise (under rule 6A of Part 11) in respect of their service during the extended limited period.

## 2. Who is able to apply for an additional death grant?

### Rule 1C(2) of Part 5

A spouse or civil partner may apply for an additional death grant.

Where the deceased was not married, or a member of a civil partnership, at the time of the deceased's death or where their spouse or civil partner has died since the deceased's death, a child of the deceased may apply for the grant.

A person is not eligible for a child's missed pension lump sum grant under this rule if the person would not have been eligible for a child's pension by virtue of anything in rule 7 of Part 4 (child's pension: limitations and duration) at the time of the death of the deceased.

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<sup>1</sup> This date is as per The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2026 but is currently being queried with MHCLG.

<sup>2</sup> This date is as per The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2026 but is currently being queried with MHCLG.

### 3. How long do FRAs have to notify eligible survivors of their entitlement to an additional death grant?

The regulations do not specify when FRAs must contact eligible survivors about their entitlement to an additional death grant. However, in line with disclosure regulations, we would recommend that information is sent to the survivor as soon as possible and, in any event, within three months after the date the changes to the regulations came into force – therefore this date would be no later than 30 June 2026.

### 4. How long does the eligible survivor have to apply for a survivor's missed pension lump sum grant?

Any application must be made as soon as reasonably practicable and no later than 1 April 2027.

### 5. What should an application contain?

The regulations specify that the application must be made in writing. As with other death grants it is recommended that the application requests such information required to enable the FRA to identify the deceased member, verify the person's relationship to that member and to determine the deceased's pensionable pay. In addition, a copy of the death certificate will be required.

A [template application form](#) is provided for FRAs to use for this purpose.

### 6. How is the survivor's missed pension lump sum grant calculated?

#### Rule 1C(6) of Part 5 as amended by SI 2026/281

The amount of the death grant payable under this rule must be calculated in accordance with the formula—

$$0.1 \times A \times B$$

where— **A** is the amount of pensionable pay which the FRA determine the deceased received in their last year of service, and

**B** is the number of completed years (which has the meaning in [rule 6\(2\) of Part 12](#)<sup>3</sup>), as determined by the FRA, during which the deceased was employed as a retained firefighter in the period before—

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<sup>3</sup> This reference is as per The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2026 but is currently being queried with MHCLG.

(a) in the case of a retained firefighter who would have been eligible, but for their death, to make an election under [rule 6A of Part 11](#) as amended by [SI 2023/986](#) in respect of their service during the limited period, 31 March 2015<sup>4</sup>;

(b) in any other case, 1 July 2000.

## 7. What if we do not hold any pay or service information for the member?

### [Rule 1C\(5\) of Part 5](#)

The FRA must determine the amount of the deceased's pay based on—

- (a) information provided by the person making the application to the FRA;
- (b) if no information is provided, the FRA's records, or
- (c) if no information is provided and no records are available, the assumption that the person's retained pensionable pay for the period was equal to 25% of the pensionable pay of a whole-time regular firefighter employed in a similar role with equivalent qualifying service.

## 8. How long does the FRA have to pay the survivor's missed pension lump sum grant once an eligible survivor has applied?

### [Rule 1C\(7\) of Part 5](#)

The FRA **must** pay the death grant during the period of three months beginning with the date on which the application for a death grant was received.

## 9. Are there any restrictions?

The FRA must not pay any part of the death grant to a person who is convicted of the murder or manslaughter of the deceased. [\[Rule 1C\(9\) of Part 5\]](#)

Where a conviction is quashed on appeal, the FRA may, if they have not then paid the death grant in full, pay all or part of it to the person whose conviction is quashed. [\[Rule 1C\(10\) of Part 5\]](#)

Where this rule applies and an additional death grant is due, there is no entitlement to a death grant under [rule 1](#) or a post-retirement death grant under

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<sup>4</sup> This date is as per The Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2026 but is currently being queried with MHCLG.

[rule 2](#) or to a survivor's pension or a bereavement pension or a child's pension under [Part 4. \[Rule 1C\(11\) of Part 5\]](#)

## Glossary

<p><b>Extended limited period</b></p>	<p>means the period beginning on the date on which the person was first employed as a retained firefighter and ending on the earliest of—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the date, if applicable, on which that person joined this Scheme as a special member or as a standard member in respect of service which that person could otherwise reckon as special pensionable service;</li> <li>(b) the date, if applicable, on which that person ceased to be employed as a retained or a regular firefighter, and</li> <li>(c) 31 March 2015</li> </ul>
<p><b>Limited Period</b></p>	<p>means the period beginning on 1st July 2000 or if later, the date falling before 6th April 2006, on which the person was first employed as a <a href="#">retained firefighter</a> and ending on—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the earlier of— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the date on which that person joined this Scheme as a <a href="#">special member</a> or as a <a href="#">standard member</a> in respect of service which he could otherwise reckon as <a href="#">special pensionable service</a>, and</li> <li>(ii) the date, if applicable, on which he ceased to be employed as a <a href="#">retained</a> or a <a href="#">regular firefighter</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) in the case of a person who joins this Scheme as a <a href="#">provisionally enrolled member</a> on 31st March 2015 and who on or after 1st April 2015— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) does not become a full protection member of this Scheme or a tapered protection member of this Scheme, 31st March 2015,</li> <li>(ii) becomes a full protection member of this Scheme, the date on which that person joins this Scheme as a special member,</li> <li>(iii) becomes a tapered protection member of this Scheme, the earlier of the date the person joins this Scheme as a special member, and the member's tapered protection closing date, within the meaning given in <b>paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the 2014 Regulations</b>;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>