

Railroad Retirement Board

§ 234.17

§ 234.12 1937 Act lump-sum death payment.

(a) The 1937 Act LSDP is payable in the following order and amounts:

(1) The employee's "living with" widow(er) is paid the total amount of the LSDP. (Refer to §234.21 for an explanation of "living with.")

(2) A funeral home, which has unpaid expenses, is paid the amount of the unpaid expenses or the total amount of the LSDP, whichever is less.

(3) An equitably entitled person is paid the total amount of the LSDP or a proportionate share of the LSDP, depending upon the amount of burial expenses he or she paid.

(b) The 1937 Act LSDP is equal to ten times the basic amount. (Refer to §234.20 for an explanation of the computation of the employee's basic amount.)

§ 234.13 Payment to a funeral home.

The 1937 Act LSDP is paid to a funeral home under the following conditions:

(a) A person who has assumed responsibility for all or part of the burial expenses files an application authorizing payment to the funeral home. Usually, the Board considers the person who makes the arrangements with the funeral home or makes a voluntary payment to the funeral home to be the person who has assumed responsibility for the burial expenses.

(b) An official of the funeral home with unpaid expenses files an application on behalf of the funeral home after 90 days have elapsed from the date of the employee's death, if during that 90-day period no one has assumed responsibility for the payment of the burial expenses.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3220-0031)

§ 234.14 Payment to an equitably entitled person.

(a) An equitably entitled person's funds used to pay burial expenses may consist of:

(1) The individual's own money;

(2) Money in a joint account with the employee or another individual;

(3) Money paid to an individual who was named beneficiary to receive the money;

(4) A promissory note; or

(5) Money which several people placed into a pooled fund.

(b) Payment is made to equitably entitled persons in the following order:

(1) The person who paid the funeral home expenses;

(2) The person who paid the grave opening and closing expenses;

(3) The person who provided the burial plot; and

(4) The person who paid any type of expenses not listed in paragraphs (b)(1) through (3) of this section.

§ 234.15 When an employee's estate is entitled.

(a) The employee's estate is considered an equitably entitled person if the funds used to pay burial expenses consisted of:

(1) Money in the employee's single-ownership bank account;

(2) Money paid directly to the funeral home by the employee before death;

(3) Money paid by the employee under a contract, plan, system or general practice where no beneficiary was named to receive the money;

(4) Money found among the employee's effects;

(5) Unpaid salary due the employee by the employee's employer;

(6) Money obtained by selling the employee's real or personal property; or

(7) Money from a trust fund.

(b) If the employee's estate is the equitably entitled person, the Board will pay the LSDP to the legal representative of the employee's estate. When no legal representative of the employee's estate has been or is expected to be appointed, the Board will pay the LSDP according to state statutory procedures applicable when no formal probate or administration occurs.

§ 234.16 When a widow(er) is eligible as an equitably entitled person.

When a widow(er) files for an LSDP and the "living with" requirement (described in §234.21) is not met, the widow(er) could be paid as an equitably entitled person.

§ 234.17 When an equitably entitled person's estate is payable.

When an equitably entitled person dies before negotiating the LSDP