

What to do now?

The first steps after a death

First, take a breath. You do not have to arrange everything at once, and almost nothing needs to happen immediately. A loved one may remain at home for a while after death – take the time you need to say goodbye.

IN THE FIRST HOURS

Have the death certified

A doctor must certify the death and issue the death certificate (the „Leichenschauschein“).

- ☐ For an expected death at home: call the family doctor or medical on-call service.
Medical on-call service: phone 116 117
- ☐ For a sudden or unclear death: dial the emergency number 112.
- ☐ Notify close relatives – you do not have to get through this alone.
- ☐ You do not need to decide anything further yet.
Keep the death certificate safe – the funeral director and registry office will need it.

WITHIN 1-2 DAYS

Choose a funeral director

The funeral director collects the deceased, reports the death, applies for the certificates and guides you through nearly all formalities.

- ☐ Choose a funeral home in your own time.
You may take time and compare offers.
- ☐ Look for a will or funeral directive (Bestattungsverfügung).
Wishes about the type of burial, place, music?
- ☐ Check whether funeral insurance or a prepaid plan exists.

GATHERING DOCUMENTS

These documents will be needed

Have them ready for the funeral director and registry office. What is required depends on marital status.

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|--|--|
| - Medical death certificate | - If widowed: spouse's death certificate |
| - Identity card of the deceased | - Pension insurance number |
| - Birth certificate | - Health insurance card |
| - If married: marriage certificate / family record | - Will, if any |
| - If divorced: divorce decree | |

IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS

Registering the death & deadlines in Bavaria

These steps are usually handled by the funeral director. This is how deadlines are set in Bavaria:

- ☐ Report the death to the registry office (Standesamt) – no later than the 3rd working day (§§ 28, 29 PStG).
The responsible office is the one for the place of death.

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- ☐ Apply for death certificates – several copies at once.
First certificate approx. €10, each further copy at the same time approx. €5.
- ☐ Earliest burial: at the earliest 48 hours after death.
- ☐ Latest point: burial or cremation within 8 days of certification – or transfer initiated.
Sat/Sun/holidays are not counted (Bavarian Burial Ordinance, since 2021).

LOCAL · ERDING & FREISING

The local registry offices

Standesamt Erding

For the town of Erding and Oberding and Eitting.

Landshuter Straße 1, 85435 Erding · Tel. 08122 408-242 · standesamt@erding.de

Standesamt Freising

Obere Hauptstraße 2, 85354 Freising · Tel. 08161 54-43131

For deaths: sterbefall@freising.de · Tel. 08161 54-43105

The responsible office is always the one where the death occurred. Each municipality has its own Standesamt – usually the funeral director handles the visit.

ONCE THINGS SETTLE A LITTLE

Inform the relevant institutions

This can wait. A list to work through later:

- ☐ The deceased's employer
- ☐ Pension and health insurance
- ☐ Life, accident and other insurers
- ☐ Bank and ongoing contracts (rent, electricity, phone, subscriptions)
- ☐ If needed: probate court (Nachlassgericht) / certificate of inheritance

And when the formalities are done?

„Grief is not something to be overcome – it is an expression of love that is still looking for a place.“

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This overview does not replace legal advice and reflects the situation in Bavaria without guarantee. Deadlines and responsibilities may change.