The TEARS Foundation pays the funeral home and/or cemetery directly and we ask that funds are not passed through to the family; there must be an outstanding balance in order to receive assistance.

Infant Funeral Assistance (20 weeks gestation up to one year old):

- Baby was between 20 weeks gestation up to one year old, please fill out Infant Application
- TEARS offers assistance up to $500 towards the cost of burial services, including grave markers
- TEARS offer assistance of up to $250 towards cremation and professional services (including, but not limited to, transportation, cremation container, professional services, and funeral services). And an additional $250 of assistance may be offered if the family chooses a special urn, merchandise, remembrance jewelry, or similar items that go beyond the original $250.

Charlie and Braden Project (Age 1-12 years)

- Children 1-12 years of age. This is for unexpected death of a child (accident, SUDC, homicide, or suicide)
- TEARS offers assistance up to $500

Jesse’s Grant Program (20 weeks gestation up to one year old)

- We typically purchase flat granite markers who would normally qualify for funeral assistance.
- Must be at least 6 months from the date of loss
- If cemetery requires a specific marker, and ours does not qualify, TEARS may offer up to $500 towards the cost.

How to apply: Email: office@thetearsfoundation.org; Through our online application; Fax: (253) 848-0299

- Completely fill out the appropriate Application for Assistance, and email or fax it to us, along with an itemized statement of the services rendered and a copy of either the death certificate or fetal death certificate (if fetal death certificate we need both pages).
- If you are waiting for a final death certificate, please send in the working copy (abstract) with the file to get the process started

What we do not pay for or fund:

- TEARS does not pay for funeral expenses 30 days past the services, airfare, obituary postings or other extraordinary items
- We are not able to financially assist families with a loss under 20 weeks gestation; however they can still submit a request for emotional support and will be given other resources.
- We are not able to financially assist families whose pregnancies have been medically terminated; however they can still submit a request for emotional support and will be given other resources.

Note: Each family will be called by the TEARS office to confirm need. If you would like to expedite the process a family member may call the TEARS office while they are in your office or from home and leave a message either via email or phone confirming their need. If you have additional questions: Call us at 253-200-0944 or email at office@thetearsfoundation.org