

Definitions:

Immediate Family–

*Spouse, children, parents,
and siblings of the deceased.*

Pauper Section–

*A section within the Cemetery
that is reserved for Yuma
County Indigent Burials.*

Responsible Party–

*Individual (s) who may fill
out the Indigent Burial
Application. This usually
consists of an immediate
family member or a power of
attorney for the deceased.*

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION, PLEASE
CONTACT OUR OFFICE.**

**YUMA COUNTY PUBLIC
FIDUCIARY**

3007 S. PACIFIC AVE.

YUMA, AZ 85365

PHONE: 373-1145

FAX: 373-1144

**Yuma County
Indigent Burial
Program**



*The Yuma County
Indigent Burial
Program is designed to
help families who, at
this difficult time are
financially unable to
bury their loved ones.*

Yuma County provides funds through the Indigent Burial Program for the burial of indigents. This program provides for burial when there is no person financially able, or when no estate exists to defray cost of burial.

In order to participate in the Indigent Burial Program, an application must be filed with the Yuma County Public Fiduciary. The Yuma County Public Fiduciary is the county agent who investigates the availability of resources to defray the cost of burial and determines the eligibility status and financial responsibility of the applicant applying for burial assistance.

The investigation involves but is not limited to: verifying bank accounts, insurance claims, veterans eligibility, vehicle ownership, real property ownership, personal property ownership, property secured by medical facilities, employers benefits, income, and resources. This investigation will determine who is responsible for burial under **A.R.S. §36-831(C)** and if an action under **A.R.S. §36-831(B)**, "County Burial Responsibility" is appropriate.

Indigent Burial Application Review

The Yuma County Public Fiduciary works closely with the local Mortuaries, Funeral Homes, and /or Cemetery during this application process. These entities have blank Indigent Burial Applications on site and can assist you if needed.

Once a complete application has been submitted to the Yuma County Public Fiduciary, and there are no pending law enforcement investigations, the review process will begin.

The Department of Veteran Affairs will be contacted to verify if the deceased was a veteran. If so, our office will notify Veteran Affairs of the death and proceed with the review of the application.

If the deceased is a veteran, he/she must be buried in the VA National Cemetery in Phoenix.



There, they will receive a veteran burial to include a rifle salute. If the family is requesting cremation of an individual who is a veteran, then this Statute does not apply. Our office will contact any individuals listed on the application for questioning regarding the deceased. If it is determined that the deceased had a bank account, our office will send an Affidavit of Collection to the bank under **A.R.S. §36-831 (E)** to reimburse the county for burial costs.

Cremation

If the family requests cremation, the Yuma County Public Fiduciary can approve or deny the cremation using the same Indigent Burial Application and marking down "Cremation".

Approval

Once the application has been approved, it will be sent back to the Mortuary, Funeral Home and/or Cemetery. They in return will schedule the service.

The service includes:

- 1. Burial in the City Cemetery**
- 2. Gray cloth flattop casket**
- 3. Direct Burial, no services provided**
- 4. A small cement marker with the decedent's name, date of birth, date of death and county number assigned.**