



APPLICATION FOR DISPOSITION OF BODY OF DECEASED PAUPERS

The Wilson County Policy for the Disposition of the body of Deceased Paupers provides as follows:

A person whose death occurs in Wilson County may be certified as a pauper eligible for burial or cremation by the county under this policy if the county judge determines, after reasonable investigation, that:

- 1) *The estate of the decedent does not have any resources that may be used to pay for disposition; and*
- 2) *The decedent's next of kin cannot pay for disposition because:*
 - a. *They do not have resources or are unwilling to pay for disposition; or*
 - b. *Their identities or whereabouts are unknown.*

Wilson County's customary method of disposition of the body of the deceased pauper will be cremation. The funeral home is responsible for obtaining the required authorizations for cremation. The cremation shall conform with all applicable state and federal regulations, including regulation (8) regarding arrangements made between next of kin and contracted funeral homes.

If the customary method of disposition conflicts with the religious affiliation of the deceased pauper; or if the deceased pauper is unknown; or if the next of kin identities and whereabouts are unknown, the method of disposition may be a burial. County burial includes embalming, generic casket, transportation to cemetery, outer burial container, and interment in the pauper section of designated Cemetery. No visitation, grave marker, or additional services at the funeral home or Cemetery are included

The information requested in the following form is necessary to determine eligibility under the County policy. It is not intended to cause embarrassment or to pry needlessly into your private affairs. Please be as detailed as possible in answering the questions. Giving false, misleading, or incomplete information on this form may result in delay or rejection of the application.

APPLICATION FOR DISPOSITION OF BODY OF DECEASED PAUPERS

INFORMATION OF APPLICANT

Name of Applicant: _____

Address of Applicant: _____

Relationship to Deceased: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

INFORMATION OF DECEASED

Deceased's Name: _____

Deceased's Address: _____

Marital Status: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Place of Death: _____ Date of Death: _____

Total monthly income at time of death, including all sources of
income and any cash on hand or in bank accounts:

Employment Status at time of death: _____

Did the deceased have any religious affiliations that would forbid cremation? Yes No
If so, what religion?

Are any Veterans benefits or Social Security benefits available to the next of kin?

Veteran Benefits? _____ SS Benefits? _____

Does the deceased (if a minor, do parents/guardians) own any property? If so, provide info.

Does the deceased (if a minor, do parents/guardians) own a vehicle? If so, provide info.

Are there any life insurance benefits available? If so, provide info.

Have any donations been given or fundraiser/benefits held? If so, what funds were raised?

Who is responsible for managing the decedents' estate? Provide name and contact.

INFORMATION OF NEXT OF KIN

Next of Kin is defined as an individual in accordance with §711.002 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

INFORMATION OF NEXT OF KIN
Please identify any living next of kin and provide address and any other contact information available. (i.e. phone numbers, email address, etc)
Spouse:
Adult Children:
Parents:
Siblings:
Other:
Explain why the next of kin are not able to provide any assistance to pay for a funeral:

PAUPER'S OATH

I, _____, the undersigned person, appear this _____ day of _____ 202_ before the County Judge of Wilson County, Texas, and declare and testify that _____ was _____ years of age, and was financially so poor as to qualify as a pauper, as set forth in the Statutes of the State of Texas.

My relationship to said deceased is _____ and to the best of my knowledge and belief, there are no funds, assets, or estate to pay for a burial.

I hereby apply for Wilson County financial assistance to pay \$ _____ .00 towards the cremation of _____ who lived at _____, _____, Texas _____, prior to the date of death on _____, 202_.

The undersigned acknowledges and approves that the herein stated pauper's oath will be filed in the office of the County Clerk of Wilson County, Texas.

Executed this _____ day of _____ 2026.

Signature of Applicant

Printed name of Applicant

Address of Applicant

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF WILSON

Before me on this day personally appeared _____, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

**Given under my hand and seal of office this _____ day of _____, 2026
(Personalized Seal)**

Notary Public's Signature

This is a legal document and the information is herein stated under oath. Falsifying any information on this document could result in denial of the request and possible prosecution.

FUNERAL HOME INFORMATION:

Name of Funeral Home: _____

Address of Funeral Home: _____

Funeral Home Phone Number: _____

Contact Person at Funeral Home: _____

Contact Email address: _____

Contact Fax Phone #: _____

I, _____ Representative of _____ Funeral Home, do attest that I have completed an investigation of resources available to aforementioned decedent and next of kin, and do hereby make formal referral of request for determination of Pauper status.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE FORWARD COMPLETED APPLICATION TO THE WILSON COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE VIA EMAIL TO:

County Judge:

hwhitman@wilsoncountvtx.gov

and

County Judge's Executive Assistant:

rgonzales@wilsoncountvtx.gov