

Practical tasks after the loss of an older teenager or young adult (16 to 19 years old)

Tasks to start soon after death

- Talk with medical team about decisions such as autopsy and organ/tissue donation
- Choose and contact a funeral home and begin making arrangements – Contact your social worker/social work department for funeral home information
- Notify your loved one's close family and friends. You can ask someone to contact others for you
- Notify your place of worship or religious leader
- Arrange for the care of your loved one's pets as needed.
- Prepare an obituary, if desired
- Secure any unused vehicles or apartment. Remove any valuables from your loved one's apartment or dorm room and make it appear occupied.
- Notify post office and forward your loved one's mail, if necessary
- Order multiple copies of the death certificate

Tasks to start after the funeral and/or month after death

- Gather legal and financial documents including vehicle titles, birth certificate, driver's license, passport, bank and financial statements, insurance policies, tax returns

Legal/Financial Tasks

- Contact a lawyer about probate or will, if needed
- Make a list of bills and debts and ensure debts are paid
- Close credit cards accounts and notify all 3 credit reporting agencies
- Cancel or transfer automobile and other insurance policies
- Transfer the titles and deeds that were in the name of the deceased
- Consult tax preparer if final income tax return or federal estate tax return are needed

Medical providers and insurance

- Notify medical insurance company to end loved one's insurance
- Notify physicians, therapists, and other health care professionals
- Cancel your loved one's prescriptions and home health services

Government agencies and programs

- Cancel driver's license, passport, or other forms of identification
- Notify government programs your loved one received benefits such as Social Security Administration (SSI, SSDI), Medicaid, Medicare, Food Stamps, WIC, etc.

Other organizations and services

- Cancel memberships in organizations such as clubs, religious organizations, sports league, etc.
- Un-enroll from school, training programs, or college

- Remove loved one from marketing and mailing lists
- Cancel subscriptions and regularly scheduled services
- Cancel email and website accounts to protect your loved one's identity