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PM CARES for Children Scheme

Central support for children who lost both parents, the surviving parent or a legal guardian to COVID-19: free health cover, help with education, a monthly stipend and a lump sum at 23.

What you may get

Support includes a corpus that reaches Rs 10 lakh by age 18, paid as a monthly stipend from 18 and as a lump sum of Rs 10 lakh at 23; free health cover of Rs 5 lakh per child under Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY until 23; Rs 4,000 a month under Mission Vatsalya for children under 18 living with relatives; a school scholarship of Rs 20,000 a year for class 1 to 12; admission to Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas; and education loan and scholarship help for higher studies. A one-time ex-gratia of Rs 50,000 is paid per deceased parent.

Who it is for

Children who lost both parents, the surviving parent, or a legal guardian or adoptive parent to COVID-19 between 11 March 2020 and 5 May 2023, and were under 18 on the date of that death.

Main conditions

- The loss must be due to the COVID-19 pandemic and fall between 11 March 2020 and 5 May 2023.
- The child must not have completed 18 years on the date of the parent's or guardian's death.
- The loss can be of both parents, the surviving parent, or a legal guardian, adoptive parent or single adoptive parent.

How to apply

1. The child, a caregiver or any agency that brings the child before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) fills in the request form on the PM CARES for Children portal (pmcaresforchildren.in).
2. A child can be brought to the CWC by Childline 1098, the District Child Protection Unit, or any other agency or person.
3. The District Magistrate confirms eligibility on the portal, and the guideline asks for the decision within one month.
4. The District Magistrate arranges the bank account, and verified children receive the financial benefits.

Status

Active

Official source: https://wcd.gov.in/offerings/pm-cares-for-children-scheme
Official application: https://pmcaresforchildren.in/
Labh Lo page: https://labhlo.in/en/schemes/central/pm-cares-for-children/

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