



Compensation

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If you have been sexually assaulted you may be entitled to compensation and financial assistance through the Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal (VOCAT). You may also seek compensation from the offender of the crime, or through civil court action. It does not cost you money to apply.

To be eligible for assistance from vocat

1. You must be a victim of a sexual offence that occurred in the state of Victoria
2. The crime must have been reported to police within a reasonable time
3. The crime must have occurred within the past two years (except in the case of certain childhood sexual crimes). However it may be possible to gain an extension of this time from VOCAT

The Tribunal may award funds to assist with:

- Medical expenses incurred or may be incurred
- Loss or damage to clothing worn during the assault
- Loss of earnings
- Expenses incurred for counselling services or to continue with long term therapy
- To cover costs which may aid recovery from the impact of the sexual assault such as: -
 - Moving house
 - Additional home security
 - Travel
 - Assistance with education
 - Self defense classes

For more information about compensation please contact

Victims of Crime Helpline - 1800 819 817

Women's Legal Service - 1800 133 302

Victoria Legal Aid - 1800 677 402

Federation of Community Legal Centres - (03) 9654 2204 (www.communitylaw.org.au)

To obtain a VOCAT information and Application Guide, contact your nearest Magistrates' Court or call the Victims Support Agency on 1800 819 817.