

IF I AM FOUND ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION, WHO GETS THE PAYMENTS?

- Compensation for lost wages and eligible expenses that you paid because of the crime will be paid to you.
- If you have an attorney representing you on the claim, the money will be sent directly to the attorney for payout. *The Compensation Program allows attorney fees of no more than 15% of the compensation awarded.*
- OVS will pay providers directly for any balances owed.

DO I HAVE TO PAY THE COMPENSATION PROGRAM BACK?

- If you receive money from any other sources, including from state or municipal agencies, insurance, or workers' compensation because of the crime, the Compensation Program is entitled to 2/3 of the amount the Compensation Program paid.

For example, if you received \$15,000 in victim compensation and you receive a \$40,000 insurance or civil court settlement for the same expenses paid by the Compensation Program, the Compensation Program is entitled to receive \$10,000 from your settlement.

- If the court orders the offender to pay you restitution for expenses that were paid by the Compensation Program, the Compensation Program is entitled to receive full reimbursement, unless the court orders differently.

It is important that you tell OVS of any address or telephone changes, because state law requires some Compensation Program forms to be filed by a certain date. If these forms are not filed on time, you will not receive compensation, if awarded, or you may lose your right to request a review of the determination.

This program receives money from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF), which is from the fees and fines paid by defendants and convicted persons. The Compensation Program also receives federal money from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, Victims of Crime Act, Victim Compensation Grant Program.

The Judicial Branch of the State of Connecticut complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation, in accordance with the ADA, contact a Judicial Branch employee or an ADA contact person listed at www.jud.ct.gov/ada/.



Office of Victim Services
Compensation Toll-free: 1-888-286-7347
Email: OVSCompensation@jud.ct.gov

COMPENSATION FOR CRIME VICTIMS



The Office of Victim Services (OVS) Victim Compensation Program offers financial help to crime victims, their family members, and other persons who have financial loss because of a crime.

HOW CAN I GET AN APPLICATION FOR VICTIM COMPENSATION?

To receive an application or for more information, call the Compensation Program toll-free at **1-888-286-7347**, email at **OVSCompensation@jud.ct.gov** or go to the OVS Web site at www.jud.ct.gov/crimevictim/

WHO CAN RECEIVE VICTIM COMPENSATION (MONEY)?

- A victim of a personal injury crime, including a victim of a person driving drunk, under the influence, leaving the scene (hit and run), or purposely using a vehicle to hurt the victim;
- A dependent or the legal designated decision maker of a homicide victim;
- A relative* of a sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, or homicide victim;
- A child who witnesses domestic violence and is not related to the victim;
- A person who paid some or all of the funeral expenses;
- A person who provided care to a personal injury victim;
- A person who paid for the crime scene clean-up; and
- A person who is blind or has a disability and owns or keeps a guide or assistance dog that was injured during a crime.

* A relative is "a person's spouse, parent, grandparent, stepparent, child, including a natural born child, stepchild and adopted child, grandchild, brother, sister, half brother or half sister, or a parent of a person's spouse."
Section 54-201(4) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

- You were injured during a crime or injured while helping police during a crime and the crime happened in:
 - Connecticut;
 - A United States state or territory that does not have a victim compensation program and you were a resident of Connecticut at the time of the crime; or
 - Outside the United States and you were a victim of international terrorism and a resident of Connecticut at the time of the crime.
- You did not cause the crime or do anything illegal;
- The crime was reported to the police within 5 days or within 5 days when a report could reasonably be made; or
- You were a sexual assault victim and told certain medical providers, mental health providers, or advocates about the sexual assault or you went to a health care facility to have an exam done;
- You are filing the application within 2 years of the date of the personal injury or death (a waiver form is available); and
 - You must cooperate with the police investigation;
 - You must cooperate with the Compensation Program by providing the information requested.

WHAT IS NOT COVERED?

- Property loss or damage;
- Pain and suffering (physical and emotional stress);
- Household living expenses;
- Mileage to doctor appointments;
- Attorney fees. (However, if an attorney files an application for you, the Compensation Program allows attorney fees of no more than 15% of the compensation awarded.)

WHAT IS COVERED?

Only expenses or losses related to the crime that are not covered by medical and auto insurance, disability insurance, workers' compensation, sick time, or other sources will be considered.

Personal Injury (up to \$15,000)

- Medical, dental, counseling, and prescription expenses;
- Counseling for relatives of sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse victims;
- Cosmetic and plastic surgery;
- Medical-related special needs, such as medical equipment (wheelchair) and modification to a home or vehicle (ramp);
- Lost wages (does not include going to court);
- Crime scene clean-up (up to \$1,000).

Survivor Benefits (up to \$25,000)

- Funeral (up to \$5,000) to any person who paid some or all of the expenses;
- Loss of support for dependents and legal designated decision makers;
- Lost wages and mileage for relatives to attend criminal court proceedings;
- Counseling for relatives and legal designated decision makers;
- Crime scene clean-up (up to \$1,000).

Non-relative Child Witness of Domestic Violence (up to \$2,000)

- Counseling