

# Can I get compensation? New South Wales

If you experienced childhood sexual abuse, you may be able to get compensation. Compensation can recognise the wrongdoing done to you and help you to recover money.

## What are my compensation options?

In New South Wales, the compensation options for survivors of childhood sexual abuse may include:

- victims support
- criminal court compensation
- a civil claim
- an institutional redress scheme
- the National Redress Scheme.

It is important that you get legal advice. Please contact knowmore on 1800 605 762 for free legal advice.

## Victims support

You may be eligible to receive victims support, including payments and access to services. Usually you have 2 years from when the crime happened to apply. You may have a longer time limit in some circumstances or for some types of support.

You can find more information by calling the Victims Access Line on 1800 633 063, the Aboriginal Contact Line on 1800 019 123 or emailing Victims Services at [vs@dcj.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vs@dcj.nsw.gov.au). You can also visit their website at [www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au/).

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## Criminal court compensation

If there is a criminal prosecution against the person who injured you and they are found guilty of an offence, you can apply for compensation with the criminal court. You can make this application when the person is found guilty or at any time after they are found guilty. Please contact knowmore for legal advice.

## Civil claims

A civil claim is where you 'sue' the person and/or institution responsible for your injuries.

There is no time limit for making a civil claim for child sexual abuse in New South Wales.

Civil claims are complicated and knowmore can help you find a lawyer with relevant experience.

## Institutional redress scheme

Some institutions offer a type of compensation for abuse committed by their staff via an 'institutional redress scheme'. These schemes may make a payment and provide other support, such as counselling.

Please contact knowmore for more information.

## National Redress Scheme

The Australian Government established the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional childhood sexual abuse that occurred prior to 1 July 2018. The scheme is accepting applications until 30 June 2027. You can find more information or request a form by calling 1800 737 377 or visiting [www.nationalredress.gov.au](http://www.nationalredress.gov.au).

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