

Can I Get Compensation? Queensland

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

What are my compensation options?

In Queensland, the compensation options for survivors of childhood sexual abuse may include:

- Victim Assist
- a criminal court reparation order
- a civil claim
- an institutional redress scheme
- the National Redress Scheme.

It is important that you get legal advice. Please contact knowmore for free legal advice.

Victim Assist Queensland

You may be eligible to receive financial assistance and free counselling from Victim Assist Queensland. Usually you have 3 years from when the crime took place to apply. If you were a child when the crime happened, you usually need to apply before you turn 21. You might be able to apply after this.

You can find more information by calling Victim Assist Queensland on 1300 546 587 or visiting their website at www.qld.gov.au/law/crime-and-police/victim-assist-queensland.

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

Criminal court compensation orders

If there is a criminal prosecution against the person responsible for what happened to you, and they are found guilty of an offence, the court may make an order for them to pay you compensation.

If you want a compensation order, let the police and the prosecutor know.

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 Queensland.

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

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