

Can I get compensation? South Australia

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 South Australia, the compensation options for survivors of childhood sexual abuse may include:

- victims of crime compensation
- 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 of crime compensation

You may be eligible to receive compensation from the government's Victims of Crime Fund. Usually you have 3 years from when the crime took place. You might be able to apply after this in some circumstances.

You can find more information by calling Victims of Crime South Australia on 7322 7007 or emailing them at victimsofcrime@sa.gov.au. You can also visit their website at www.voc.sa.gov.au/.

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Criminal court compensation

If there is a criminal prosecution against the person responsible for what happened to you and they are found guilty of the crime, the court may make an order for that person to pay you compensation. You need to tell the prosecutor that you want a compensation order so that they can ask for one at sentencing.

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for survivors

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Image inspired by original artwork by Ngunawal man Dean Bell, depicting knowmore's connection to the towns, cities, missions and settlements within Australia.

knowmore acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters across Australia upon which we live and work. We pay our deep respects to Elders past and present for their ongoing leadership and advocacy.

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 South Australia.

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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