

Can I get compensation? Western Australia

If you were sexually abused as a child, you may be able to get compensation. Compensation can recognise the wrong done to you and help you to recover money.

What are my compensation options?

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

- the National Redress Scheme
- a civil claim
- Criminal Injuries Compensation
- an institutional redress scheme
- criminal court compensation.

How knowmore can help

It is important that you get legal advice. knowmore can give you more information and help you work out your options for compensation.

Please contact knowmore on 1800 605 762 for free legal advice.

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

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 Western Australia.

Civil claims are complicated and knowmore can help you find a lawyer to advise you.

Criminal injuries compensation

You may be eligible to receive criminal injuries compensation. You have 3 years from when the crime took place to apply. An extension of time may be granted.

You can find more information by calling the Office of Criminal Injuries Compensation on (08) 9425 3250 or emailing them at criminal.injuries@justice.wa.gov.au You can also visit their website at cict.justice.wa.gov.au/default.aspx

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.

Criminal court compensation

If the offender is prosecuted and convicted, at sentencing the court may order them to pay you compensation for damage to property and expenses.

If you want a compensation order, let the prosecutor know. You can also apply to the court yourself for a compensation order.

If the court makes a compensation order, you are still able to claim criminal injuries compensation (see above).

With all of these options it is important to seek legal advice.

Please call knowmore on 1800 605 762 or email info@knowmore.org.au

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