

Can I get compensation? Western 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 Western Australia, the compensation options for survivors of childhood sexual abuse may include:

- criminal injuries 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.

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.

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

Criminal court compensation

If there is a criminal prosecution against the person responsible for what happened to you and they are convicted of an offence, the court may make an order for them to pay you compensation. This may be done during the sentencing proceedings or within 12 months from the date when the offender was sentenced.

If you want a compensation order, let the prosecutor know. You can also 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 Western 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.

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

**** Disclaimer:** The information provided in this fact sheet is for information only. It must not be relied on as legal advice. You should seek legal advice about your own particular circumstances. | Last updated June 2022
©knowmore **