

About the National Redress Scheme

The National Redress Scheme

The National Redress Scheme (NRS) was set up by the government as a result of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

The NRS acknowledges that many children were sexually abused in State and Territory care. It holds institutions responsible for this abuse. Institutions may include foster homes, Aboriginal missions and reserves, schools and churches.

The NRS aims to provide justice and recognition for people who were sexually abused as children in institutions.

The NRS is separate to knowmore.

What can the NRS provide?

- a payment of money up to \$150,000
- counselling and psychological support
- A personal response or apology from the institution that was responsible for the abuse

How long do I have to make a claim?

The NRS began on 1 July 2018, and it will be open for 10 years.

Applications can be made anytime before **30 June 2027**.

A late application may be accepted in limited circumstances.

Making a claim with the National Redress Scheme (NRS)

1. Call knowmore on 1800 605 762

We will take your details and arrange a meeting for you to talk with our legal team.

2. Talk with a knowmore lawyer

Tell them what happened and discuss your options. This may include an application for recognition with the NRS. They may also refer you to a civil lawyer for more legal advice.

3. Take time to think things over

Tell us if you would like to make an application with the NRS. If so, we may refer you to a Redress Support Service.

4. Work together with a Redress Support Service

The Redress Support Service will help you make an application for recognition with the NRS.

5. Lodge your claim with the NRS

After you lodge your application, you may have to wait up to a year or more to receive a decision from the NRS.

6. The NRS makes a decision

When you receive your decision from the NRS, please call knowmore for advice, support and/or financial counselling.

Who can apply?

Survivors of child sexual abuse in State or Territory care can make a claim if the institution responsible for the abuse has joined the National Redress Scheme.

Every State and Territory government has joined the Scheme. Many non-government agencies have joined the scheme. These include the Catholic, Anglican and Uniting churches, Salvation Army, YMCA and Scouts.

Please call knowmore on 1800 605 762 to find out if you can apply to the National Redress Scheme. You can also see the institutions that have joined the National Redress Scheme by visiting their website:

www.nationalredress.gov.au

Original artwork by Dean Bell depicts knowmore's connection to the towns, cities, missions and settlements within Australia.

knowmore acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands and waterways across Australia upon which we live and work. We pay our deep respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

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**** 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 April 2021
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About knowmore

knowmore is a free legal service. We provide services all across Australia.

We give legal help to people who survived sexual abuse when they were a child in an institution.

We can advise you about claims to the National Redress Scheme (NRS) and other legal questions or issues you may have.

We have a team of lawyers, counsellors, financial counsellors, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers to provide you with information, support and advice.

We are separate to government and the NRS, and will keep your information confidential.



Call our free advice line

 1800 605 762

 knowmore.org.au

knowmore free legal help
for survivors