

# Can I get compensation? For people in jail

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?

The compensation options for survivors of childhood sexual abuse may include:

- victims of crime payment
- criminal court compensation
- a civil claim
- an institutional redress scheme
- the National Redress Scheme.

Most compensation options involve disclosing sensitive information. A jail may not be a safe or confidential place for these disclosures. It is important that you get legal advice.

Please contact knowmore on 1800 605 762 for free legal advice or send a letter to **PO Box 267, Darlinghurst NSW 1300.**

## Victims of crime payments

You may be eligible to receive a victims of crime payment which may include payments and access to services. Victims of crime payments are called different things in different states, for example: victim support, criminal injuries compensation and victims assistance. Each state and territory has a different application process. There may be time limits to apply.

It is important to 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 who injured you and they are found guilty of the crime, the court may make an order for them to pay you compensation. Each state and territory has a different application process. There may be time limits to apply.

Please contact knowmore for free legal advice.

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**knowmore** free legal help  
for survivors

1800 605 762 | [knowmore.org](https://knowmore.org).

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.

Civil claims are complicated and knowmore can help you find a lawyer with relevant experience. Please contact knowmore for a free referral on 1800 605 762.

## 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 (NRS)

The Australian Government established the National Redress Scheme (NRS) 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](http://www.nationalredress.gov.au)

Different rules apply if you are in jail or if you have a serious criminal conviction. You may need to provide additional information to the NRS. For more information, please see knowmore's fact sheet '*Applying for redress for people in jail and people with serious criminal convictions*'.

Please contact knowmore for free legal advice.

## How knowmore can help

knowmore is a free and independent legal service for survivors of child sexual abuse. We provide free legal advice and support.

knowmore can also give you the names of civil claims lawyers and help you to contact them. This service is free.

- Visit: [www.knowmore.org.au](http://www.knowmore.org.au)
- Free call: 1800 605 762
- Email: [info@knowmore.org.au](mailto:info@knowmore.org.au)

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