WE CAN HELP

CLAIM TYPES AVAILABLE:

Victim Compensation (VC)
Property Loss (PL)
Domestic Violence Relocation (DV)
Sexual Battery Relocation (RS)
Human Trafficking Relocation (HT)
Sexual Battery Forensic Examination (SB)
Emergency Responder Death Benefit (ER)
State Institution (SI)

BENEFITS AVAILABLE:

The Victim Compensation (VC) program offers assistance for economic losses incurred such as wage loss (for victims who missed work as a result of physical crime injuries, and parents who missed work to bring their minor child to medical treatment for physical injuries), disability (if a permanent impairment was suffered), or loss of support (for applicants of victims who were gainfully employed at the time of death); treatment costs such as medical, mental health or grief counseling (not covered by any other collateral source); and/or funeral/burial costs. The Domestic Violence (DV), Sexual Battery (RS), and Human Trafficking (HT) Relocation programs compensate specific relocation expenses when victims have been certified by a domestic violence or rape crisis center in the State of Florida. The Property Loss (PL) program provides financial assistance to adults over the age of 60 or disabled who suffered the loss of personal tangible property which adversely affects their daily quality of life. The Sexual Battery Forensic Examination (SB) program reimburses providers for costs associated with the collection of forensic evidence following a sexual battery or lewd or lascivious battery or molestation. The Emergency Responder Death Benefit (ER) program offers death benefits to the surviving spouse, children, parents or guardian, or siblings of a deceased emergency medical technician, paramedic, firefighter, or law enforcement officer who is killed answering a call for service in the line of duty. The Bureau serves as a conduit for processing eligibility for State Institution (SI) claims filed through the Department of Children and Families, Juvenile Justice, Corrections, Health and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

GET CONNECTED

Victims are encouraged to speak with a local victim advocate at their victim services center, law enforcement agency, or State Attorney's Office for assistance with applying.

For referrals, information about program qualifications, or to check the status of a claim, call the Toll-Free Information and Referral Line.

(800) 226-6667

Hearing impaired users may call through Florida Relay at (800) 955-8771.

Visit us on the web at https://VANext.MyFloridaLegal.com.

Email us at VCIntake@MyFloridaLegal.com.

Florida Office of the Attorney General
Division of Victim Services and Criminal Justice Programs
Bureau of Victim Compensation
PL-01, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050

Victim service practitioners can register for access to the online claims submission tool at https://VANext.MyFloridaLegal.com.

Attorney General Ashley Moody
Office of the Attorney General
PL-01 The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

MyFloridaLegal.com

The Office of the Attorney General, Bureau of Victim Compensation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Hope begins with help.

Bureau of Victim Compensation

WHO CAN APPLY

VICTIM MEANS:

A person who suffers personal physical injury or death as a direct result of a crime.

A person younger than 18 years of age who was present at the scene of a crime, saw or heard the crime, and suffered a psychiatric or psychological injury because of the crime but who was not physically injured.

A person younger than 18 years of age who was the victim of a felony or misdemeanor offense of child abuse that resulted in a mental injury as defined by s. 827.03, Fla. Stat., but who was not physically injured.

A person against whom a forcible felony was committed and who suffers a psychiatric or psychological injury as a direct result of that crime but who does not otherwise sustain a personal physical injury or death.

For the property loss program, a person 60 years of age or older, or disabled adult.

For relocation programs, a person against whom domestic violence as defined by s. 741.28, Fla. Stat., sexual battery s. 794.011, or human trafficking s. 787.06(3)(b), (d), (f), or (g), was committed.

CRIME MEANS:

A felony or misdemeanor offense which results in physical injury or death, a forcible felony which directly results in psychiatric or psychological injury, or an offense of child abuse which results in a mental injury to a person younger than 18 years of age.

Vehicle, boat, and aircraft violations of s. 316.027(2), s. 316.193, s. 316.1935, s. 327.35(1), s. 782.071(1)(b), or s. 860.13(1)(a), Fla. Stat., which results in physical injury or death; or when the act was intentionally inflicted using a vehicle, boat, or aircraft as a weapon.

Violations of s. 827.071, s. 847.0135, s. 847.0137, or s. 847.0138, Fla. Stat., related to online sexual exploitation and child pornography.

QUALIFICATIONS

(Additional qualifications, deadlines and exceptions not listed may apply.)

Crimes must be reported to law enforcement within 120 hours.

Victims must suffer personal physical injury or death as the result of a crime. Some exceptions and limited benefits may apply for victims who sustained psychiatric or psychological injury from certain crimes.

Applications must be filed within three years after the crime date or within five years if good cause is shown for the filing delay.

Victims must fully cooperate with law enforcement, the State Attorney's Office, and the Attorney General's Office.

Victims must not have been engaged in an unlawful activity at the time of the crime.

Victims' conduct must not have contributed to the situation that brought about his or her own injuries.

Victims/applicants must not have been confined or in custody in a county or municipal facility; a state or federal correctional facility; or a juvenile detention, commitment, or assessment facility; adjudicated as a habitual felony offender, habitual violent offender, violent career criminal; or adjudicated guilty of a forcible felony offense.

Relocation claims for victims of domestic violence who have an immediate need to escape a domestic violence environment must be filed through and certified by a domestic violence center in the State of Florida. The certification must be received by the department within 30 days from the date of crime.

Relocation claims for victims of sexual battery who need to relocate due to a reasonable fear for their continued safety must be filed through and certified by a rape crisis center in the State of Florida.

Relocation claims for victims of sexual human trafficking who have an urgent need to escape from an unsafe environment must be filed through and certified by a domestic violence or rape crisis center in the State of Florida. The certification must be received by the department within 45 days from the last identifiable threat from the human trafficking offender which was communicated to law enforcement.

DOCUMENTATION NEEDED

A completed, signed and dated application.

Documentation which proves a compensable crime occurred. Acceptable documentation includes: a law enforcement report, affidavit charging an individual with a crime filed by law enforcement, information report charging an individual with a crime filed by a state attorney, indictment by a grand jury, written communication from any Federal Law Enforcement agency, a cybercrime investigator certification for purposes of s. 960.197, Fla. Stat., or a Law Enforcement Information Reporting Form.

Proof of crime related expenses, such as itemized bills, if applicable. Itemized bills should be prepared using industry standard forms or on the provider's letterhead, and must include the following information: service provider/facility's name, street address, city, state and zip code, email address, and telephone number and federal tax identification number; beginning and ending date(s) of service; name and address of individual being billed for services rendered; revenue code, description of service, CPT or equivalent code, service date, service units, and total charges; diagnostic code, diagnosis, or nature of injury; and first and last name of attending medical professional and license number.

Proof of third-party payments such as insurance, restitution, judgments or settlements (e.g., copy of insurance explanation of benefits, settlement agreements, court documents for restitution and judgments), if applicable.

Wage loss, disability, and loss of support benefits require additional documentation from the victim's employer and treating physician, if applicable.

Relocation benefits require certification documentation from a certified domestic violence or rape crisis center (depending on the claim type selected) in the State of Florida.

When claims are received, victims/applicants may be asked to provide specific medical and financial information. All supplemental documents are verified telephonically with the originating source.