

# Support for family members of homicide victims



## How to apply

There is no time limit to apply for counselling. Claims for financial support must be lodged within two years after the death of the homicide victim. A child must apply before they turn 20 years of age. Where an application relates to a missing person the timeframe is applied from the date the missing person case is declared a homicide. When we receive your application for financial support we will access relevant birth and death certificates from Birth, Death and Marriages, and police records from the NSW Police Force. We will send you written notification of the decision. Please provide your bank details if you are applying for financial assistance and/or a recognition payment. To apply for support, complete the Application for support for family victims.

## Justice-related travel

### Travel – Day

If you need to travel for a justice related event you can receive an allowance for meals, snacks and incidentals. The allowance is based on the distance from your residence to the justice-related event. For travel up to 100km the allowance is \$30. For travel further than 100km the allowance is \$100. In addition to this allowance receipts for parking, public transport and taxi may also be considered.

### Travel – Overnight

If you need to travel a long distance to attend a justice- related event you can receive an allowance of \$300 per night for each overnight stay. This amount covers accommodation, all meals/snacks and incidentals including parking, public transport and taxi cost.

### Fuel

If you travel using your own vehicle you can request reimbursement of fuel at the rate of 27.2c per kilometre. Your distance is calculated from where you start your trip to the destination.

### Flights

We can consider payment of flights for immediate family members and one support person.

**Note:** Accommodation deposits, vehicle rental bonds, alcohol, cigarettes and any damage to property are not covered.

## Your confidentiality

Your confidentiality is important to us. If restitution action is taken to recover the money awarded, your name and amount awarded will be made available to the offender. **Your personal contact details will not be released.**

## Important information

Further information is available on our website. If you have questions about your eligibility to apply, have difficulty downloading any forms or would like assistance with your application please contact Victims Services.

## Contact details

Phone	1800 633 063
Aboriginal Contact Line	1800 019 123
Hours	9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
Email	vs@justice.nsw.gov.au
Web	www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au
Street address	Level 1, Justice Precinct Offices 160 Marsden Street, Parramatta
Address all mail to	The Commissioner of Victims Rights Victims Services, Locked Bag 5118 Parramatta NSW 2124

Victims Services can assist with counselling, payment of funeral expenses and financial support for family members of a homicide that occurred in NSW.

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## Types of support

	Purpose	Benefits	Who is eligible to apply?	What information is needed?	How long do you have to claim?
Counselling	To help in your recovery	Up to 22 hours of counselling and more for some victims	Family victims (e.g. spouse, de facto partner, child, siblings, parents or guardians)	Application form Government issued ID	No time limit applies
Financial assistance for immediate needs	To help pay for things you need urgently to be safe and healthy because of the violent crime	You may get up to \$5,000 to help pay for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>changing the locks on your doors</li> <li>moving house</li> <li>putting an alarm in your home</li> <li>emergency doctor, dentist and other medical bills</li> <li>crime scene clean up</li> </ul> You may get up to \$9,500 to help pay for the funeral	Family victims	Application form Government issued ID Copies of tax invoices, receipts or treatment plans of costs you are claiming A description of how each cost relates directly to the violent crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No later than two years after the death is established as a homicide</li> <li>By the age of 20 years old if the family member is a child</li> </ul>
Financial assistance for justice-related expenses	To help pay for some costs of attending court or coronial proceedings	You may get up to \$5,000 to help pay for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attending court and coronial meetings</li> </ul>	Family victims	Application form Government issued ID Copies of tax invoices, receipts or treatment plans of costs you are claiming A description of how each cost relates directly to the violent crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No later than two years after the death is established as a homicide</li> <li>By the age of 20 years old if the family member is a child</li> </ul>
Recognition payment	To acknowledge that a violent crime has been committed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$15,000 for financially dependent family victim or children under 18 at the time of death</li> <li>\$7,500 for parents, step-parents or guardians, current spouses, or de facto partners of a homicide victim</li> </ul>	Financially dependent family victims and children under 18 years at the time of death	Application form Government issued ID Evidence of financial dependency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No later than two years after the death is established as a homicide</li> <li>By the age of 20 years old if the family member is a child</li> </ul>