



GEORGIA CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION ANSWERS REGARDING ECONOMIC SUPPORT

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council administers the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program (CVCP), which helps victims and their families by providing financial assistance with expenses such as medical bills, loss of earnings, funeral expenses, mental health counseling, and crime scene clean-up.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR LOST WAGES

If you are a crime victim, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for wages lost due to your victimization if:

- You were physically injured as a result of a violent crime
- You personally witnessed or were threatened with a violent crime
- You were hurt helping a victim of a violent crime
- You are the parent or guardian of minor victim who lost pay due to the victimization
- You were gainfully employed at the time of the victimization

REIMBURSEMENT FOR LOSS OF SUPPORT

You may be eligible for reimbursement for loss of support if:

- You are a domestic violence victim who depends on the assailant for support
- You are a dependent of a homicide victim and relied on the victim for support
- You are the parent or guardian of a minor who depended on a homicide victim for support

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY TIMELINES

- The victim/witness must have reported the crime to the proper authorities within 72 hours of the crime, unless good cause is shown.
- The victim/witness must file an application within 1 year of the crime unless good cause shown (Please Note: A claim submitted 3 years after the victimization cannot be considered).

CVCP CATEGORICAL CAPS (FOR COVERED CATEGORIES)

- Medical/Dental Expenses – up to \$15,000
- Counseling Expenses – up to \$3,000
- Funeral Expenses – up to \$3,000
- Economic Support for Lost Wages and/or Loss of Support – up to \$10,000
- Crime Scene Clean-Up – up to \$1,500

The above shows the maximum amounts that an eligible claimant may qualify for in each benefit category based on eligible expenses.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q** How can I get reimbursement for wages I lost because of my victimization?
- A**
- Show proof that you were gainfully employed at the time of the victimization
 - Provide official documentation showing how much you earned 60 days prior to the victimization
 - Provide official documentation from your employer showing you missed work and lost pay due to the victimization (additional documentation will be required if you are self-employed)
 - Provide records from a physician or a licensed mental health professional that provided treatment at the time of the victimization stating you had to be out of work
- Q** How can I get economic support based on the assailant's wages?
- A**
- Provide proof that the perpetrator has been removed from the home (An order of protection can be used as proof in this instance)
 - Provide proof that the victim depends on the perpetrator for support
- Q** Does the money go directly to the victim?
- A**
- Reimbursement goes directly to the victim for out of pocket expenses. Then, reimbursement is paid directly to service providers, such as hospitals, doctors, and counselors. The victim has the right to decide the amount in which service providers are paid when their expenses exceed benefit categories
- Q** What Expenses Are Not Eligible For Reimbursement?
- A**
- Personal property losses, except medically necessary replacement of items such as eyeglasses, dentures, prosthetic devices, or wheelchairs and other assistive devices.
 - When victim was on parole or probation for a felony of an injurious nature when the crime occurred
 - Compensation for pain and suffering

IMPORTANT NOTE: CVCP is not an entitlement program, only those who meet all of the eligibility requirements will be approved. This document only outlines some of the eligibility requirements for the program. There may be other factors that are not mentioned in this document that might make you ineligible. If you have any questions, or if you would like an application, please call the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council at (404) 657-2222 or (800) 547-0060. You can also visit our website at cjcc.ga.gov.