



# Victims of Crime Compensation (VOCC)

When you have been hurt because of a violent act, or you are related to the victim of a violent act, you can apply for Victims of Crime Compensation (VOCC).

VOCC can be money (financial compensation), counselling, or money for funeral expenses.

## What types of injuries or violent acts does VOCC cover?



**Physical injuries:**  
such as broken bones or scarring.



**Domestic Violence injuries:**  
when you've been hurt by someone - your partner or family.



**Psychological injuries:**  
when you're feeling no good, such as depression, PTSD.



**Violent Acts:**  
such as sexual violence.

## Who can apply for VOCC?

The type of VOCC application you should make depends on if you are a:



**Primary Victim:**  
the person who got hurt.



**Secondary Victim:**  
the person who saw someone get hurt.



**Family Victim:**  
spouse (married or de facto), parent, child, or dependent of the Primary Victim.



**Related Victim:**  
relative or partner of the Primary Victim, that is not a Family Victim.

# How can I apply for VOCC?

## 1 Make an application\*

- \* You should talk to a lawyer before making a VOCC application.
- A lawyer can give you advice and help with the application.

## 2 Crime Victim Services Unit (CVSU) gathers information

- The CVSU will gather information about your application, including any information you have already provided.
- During this time, you should keep your contact details up to date with your lawyer (if you choose to have one) and/or the CVSU.



## 3 Assessment

- The CVSU will read and assess the information in your application to decide if you will get VOCC.
- Assessment can take a long time - sometimes six (6) years or longer.

## 4 Decision

- After assessment, the CVSU will make a decision about your application.
- This could be an award of compensation OR a reduced amount of compensation OR a refusal to award compensation.
- If you don't already have a lawyer, you should get legal advice about the final decision as soon as possible.
- If you are awarded compensation, the NT Government may pursue recovery from the Offender (the person who hurt you/the primary victim).



Top End  
**Women's**  
Legal Service



Australian Government  
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**Do you need legal advice or assistance?**

**You can contact TEWLS for a free appointment**

**Phone: 1800 234 441  
or (08) 8982 3000**

**Email: [admin@tewls.org.au](mailto:admin@tewls.org.au)**

**Website: [www.tewls.org.au](http://www.tewls.org.au)**

**Address: 17 Lindsay Street, Darwin**