GEORGIA CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

While we know that no amount of payment can erase the painful memories of domestic abuse, we hope this program will help ease some of your financial burdens. Eligible program applicants may receive compensation benefits up to $25,000 to help with medical and dental care, mental health counseling, economic support, crime scene clean-up, and funeral expenses when the costs are not covered by other sources.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

You may be eligible to receive program benefits from the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program if you are a domestic violence survivor, the parent or guardian of a minor domestic violence victim, or someone who has taken responsibility (or is listed as a guarantor) for debt incurred as a result of domestic violence.

ELIGIBILITY TIMEFRAMES

The crime must have been reported to the proper authorities within 72 hours of the crime; (a DV victim can meet this requirement by obtaining a temporary protective order within 72 hours of the incident).

The victim must file an application within 1 year of the domestic violence incident, unless good cause is shown (A claim submitted 3 years after the victimization cannot be considered).

Please Note: We understand that the decision to report domestic violence is not always an easy decision to make, keeping this in mind, a domestic violence incident not reported within the 72 hour timeframe may be waived for good cause shown.

COVERED EXPENSES AND THEIR CATEGORICAL CAPS

- 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

These are the maximum amounts that an eligible claimant may qualify for in each benefit category (the maximum program amount is $25,000 per victim based on eligible expenses).

SAFETY PLAN

Leaving a relationship where there is presence of domestic violence can be extremely dangerous for the individual suffering abuse. Developing a safety plan for leaving will help you think through the leaving process. If you need to speak with someone that can assist you in developing a safety plan, please call 1-800-33HAVEN (1-800-334-2836).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q How can I get reimbursement for wages I lost because of domestic violence?

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 the pay lost 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 I didn't file a police report, but I have a restraining order, can I still apply?

A
- Yes, the program may use documentation from a temporary protective order if it was obtained within 72 hours of the incident.

Q How can I get economic support based on the abuser's wages?

A
- Provide proof that the abuser 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 abuser for support.

Q Can this program provide counseling for me and my children?

A
- If eligible, CVCP can pay for counseling and expenses related to the domestic violence incident that are not covered by other sources for up $3,000 per victim or witness. (Please refer to Eligible Expense Categories for list of other covered expenses).

Q Will this program cover my medical expenses?

A
- If eligible, CVCP can pay for follow-up care and other medical expenses related to the domestic violence incidents that are not covered by other sources for up $15,000 per victim or witness. (Please refer to Eligible Expense Categories for list of other covered expenses).

* A victim cannot receive lost wages and loss of support.

IMPORTANT NOTE: 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.