Minnesota

The state established the Minnesota Office for Justice Programs (OJP) in 2003 to improve the state’s criminal justice operations. The Minnesota OJP administers the Crime Victims Reparations Board and sets the rules governing awards to victims of rape and other violent crimes.

WHO CAN GET HELP?

To be eligible for compensation, you must be a victim of a qualifying crime involving injury or death. Crimes covered by the program include: homicide, assault, child abuse, sexual assault, robbery, kidnapping, domestic abuse, stalking, criminal vehicular operation and drunk driving. (The program does not compensate victims of property crimes or pay for property damage during a violent crime) In addition to being the victim of a qualifying violent crime, applicants must meet other criteria, including:

* The crime must have occurred in Minnesota. The program does not provide coverage to Minnesota residents who are injured in other countries, unless the crime was an act of international terrorism.

* Applicants must send a claim form to the Crime Victims Reparations Board within three (3) years of the crime and the victim must have reported the crime to the police within 30 days (some exceptions apply).

* The victim must cooperate fully with the investigation and prosecution of the case. The victim cannot have been committing a crime or any misconduct that is connected to the incident.

WHAT MUST I DO TO GET HELP?

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Victims can apply for compensation by filing an application with the Minnesota Crime Victims Reparations Board. You can call 1-651-201-7300 or 1-888-622-8799 to request an application or to get help with applying. The completed application must be mailed, faxed or emailed to:

Minnesota Crime Victims Reparations Board
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 2300
St. Paul, MN 55101-1515
Fax: 1-651-296-5787
Email: dps.justiceprograms@state.mn.us

In your community, your victim/witness coordinator in your county attorney’s office or your local sexual assault or domestic violence program should also have the necessary forms and information for application.

**WHAT COSTS MAY BE PAID?**

If an award is approved, there are rate limits and caps on certain expenses. In addition, the victim’s losses after insurance or other sources of payment must be in excess of $50.

The following crime-related expenses may be covered:

- Funeral and burial expenses
- Medical and dental bills
- Mental health counseling expenses
- Child care and household services

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✓ Loss of wages
✓ Crime scene cleanup
✓ Financial support for dependents of a homicide victim

To find out more information about Minnesota Crime Victim Reparations and for applications, visit: http://www.ojp.state.mn.us/MCCVS/FinancialHelp/index.htm

Victims can request an emergency award in certain situations by filling out a separate form found on the Minnesota OJP website. Through the Emergency Fund Grant Program, small grants are distributed to 70 local victim assistance programs throughout the state. Emergency assistance includes, but is not limited to, the following expenses:

✓ Replacement of necessary property that was lost, damaged, or stolen as a result of a crime;
✓ Purchase and installation of necessary home security devices;
✓ Transportation to locations related to the victim’s needs as a victim, such as medical facilities and facilities of the criminal justice system;
✓ Cleanup of a crime scene; and
✓ Reimbursement for reasonable travel and living expenses that the victim incurred to attend court proceedings that were held at a location other than the place where the crime occurred due to the change in venue.

To find out more information about the Minnesota Emergency Fund and how to apply, visit: http://www.ojp.state.mn.us/MCCVS/FinancialHelp/emergencyfund/about.htm