

# Guidance on Funding Available to Victims of Sexual Violence

Victim Assistance Scheme Updated 1 July 2024



**The Victim Assistance Scheme (VAS) provides funding to victims of serious crime to alleviate some of the financial burden of being a victim and to increase participation in the justice system. This is achieved through access to grants, counselling, and financial support to travel to and attend court.**

**Please note: Funding may differ depending on individual circumstances, based on needs assessment, incident and reporting dates.**

## Funding available for victims of Sexual Violence

### Grants – A police file number is required.

- Amount of grant depends on the incident and/or reporting date and may require a cost breakdown.
- Up to \$1,000 grant may be available to assist with the aftermath of a crime.

### Supplementary Funding

Supplementary funding up to \$2,500 may also be available to a primary victim to assist with costs associated with safety and healing.

### Counselling

A maximum of ten counselling hours may be available if there are delays through ACC.

Counselling may be available from within the \$2,500 supplementary funding.

### Travel & Accommodation Funding

Funding available (with limits) for the primary victim plus up to 3 people (whānau/family, support people) to attend trials, sentencing, hearings, and other justice sector proceedings.

Victim Support make all travel and accommodation bookings.

Please note that travel for prosecution witnesses is administered by NZ Police or MoJ. Read more [here](#).

### Court Attendance allowance

\$150/day or \$75/half day is available for a primary victim and up to 3 people (whānau/family, support people) who have lost earnings attending court hearings. Support people **must be 18 years or older**.

Please note that witnesses are paid by the Ministry of Justice under the Witnesses and Interpreters Fees Regulations 1974.

\$300 ex GST/day or \$150 ex GST/half day is also available for a specialist agency support person when victim is giving evidence or reading a Victim Impact Statement (if no unpaid support person is available).

### Crime Scene Funding

Up to \$2,000 may be available where a police cordon has been put in place, the police confirm they are investigating a crime and the victim has been displaced.

#### Please note:

##### Minors – Travel and Court Attendance Applications

- If the primary victim is a child/minor/young person and **they do not** attend court, then both the parents/caregivers/guardians are entitled to funding and are each entitled to a support person.
- If the primary victim is a child/minor/young person and **they do** attend court, then both the parents/caregivers/guardians of that child are entitled to funding as support people and funding would also be available for the primary victim.

**Helping victims of serious crime by contributing to costs related to the crime, the justice process, and recovery.**

CONTACT

#### Victim Support

0800 VICTIM (0800 842 846)  
contactservice@victimsupport.org.nz

# Sexual Violence Financial Assistance

Updated 1 July 2024



**Police & Agency engage with Victim Support on behalf of the Primary Victim to access initial/emergency financial assistance**

## Sexual Violence Grant (SVG)

Form to be completed and sent to Victim Support.

**Primary Victim application only**

## Sexual Violence Supplementary Funding

(effective 1 July 2023)

Form to be completed and sent to Victim Support.

**Primary victim application only**



**Police, Agency – retain engagement**

## Sexual Violence Travel Assistance Funding (SVTA)

**Primary victim and up to 3 support people (whānau/family, support people)**

Court familiarisation, support person/people request and overall travel requirements (including accommodation and meals) discussed with Police/Agency/CVA.



**Court Proceedings**

## Sexual Violence Court Attendance Allowance (SVTA)

**Primary victim and up to 3 support people (whānau/family, support people)**

ONCE attendance is confirmed, form to be completed and sent to Victim Support.

You must be aware client is in employment.

If a non-funded agency is not being paid to provide court support, you may be able to apply, please discuss with your local Victim Support contact.



**Police, Agency – retain engagement**

## Sexual Violence Travel Assistance Funding (SVTA)

**Primary victim and up to 3 support people (whānau/family, support people)**

Form to be completed and sent to Victim Support.

Note: No court attendance is available for Restorative Justice and Parole proceedings.

## **For all applicants:**

Please contact your local Victim Support Worker or email completed form to [contactservice@victimsupport.org.nz](mailto:contactservice@victimsupport.org.nz) who will then forward to your local contact. Or call us on **0800 VICTIM (842 846)**.



## Sexual Violence Financial Assistance – eligibility table

REPORTING DATE	INCIDENT DATE	ELIGIBLE FOR
<b>after 1 July 2024</b>	1 July 2024 or later	\$1,000 SV Grant and up to \$2,500 SV Supplementary Funding
	1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024	\$500 SV Grant and up to \$2,000 SV Supplementary Funding
	before 1 July 2023	\$500 SV Grant
<b>on or between 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024</b>	1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024	\$500 SV Grant and up to \$2,000 SV Supplementary Funding
	before 1 July 2023	\$500 SV Grant
<b>before 1 July 2023</b>	1 July 2020 - 30 June 2023	\$500 SV Grant, if reported within 12 months
	1 Jan 2011 - 30 June 2020	\$500 SV Grant, if cost breakdown provided
	1 Jan 2010 - 31 Dec 2010	\$250 SV Grant, if cost breakdown provided
	prior to 1 Jan 2010	not eligible

