

A Victim's Guide to Financial Assistance in Ontario

The following document outlines specific financial programs for victims of crime available for Ontario residents.

Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB)

Eligibility Criteria:

- Injured as a result of a violent crime, or family members of deceased, those hurt or affected while making an arrest or assisting a peace officer with law enforcement duties, or while trying to prevent a crime.
- Injuries can be physical or psychological
- Crime must have occurred in Ontario
- Police report must have been made, but charges and convictions are not necessary
- Must apply for compensation within two years of incident date- extensions are possible when appropriate

CICB does not cover:

- Crimes committed outside of Ontario
- Damaged, lost or stolen property
- Legal fees for criminal court, Loss of wages for attending criminal court
- Workplace accidents (should go through WSIB)
- Accidental death or suicide
- CICB will not compensate victims if crime was committed by a child under the age of 12

Applications:

For more information about the CICB, you can call them at 416-326-2900 or toll free 1-800-372-7463, or by email at info.cicb@ontario.ca or visit their website <http://www.sjto.gov.on.ca/cicb/>

Financial Assistance for Families of Homicide Victims (FAFHV) Program

This program recognizes that while no amount of money can make up for the loss of a loved one through homicide, financial assistance may be part of helping families recover from that loss. This program is designed to financially help those survivors of homicide that may not be eligible for compensation from the CICB.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Homicide occurred on or after January 1, 2016
- You were victim's parent (biological/adoptive) or spouse at the time of death
- Homicide occurred in Ontario and you reside in Ontario
- Victim did not contribute to their death through criminal activity
- You do not have a conviction or any pending charges against you related to the homicide

Application:

Application process can take up to 90 days once all necessary documents have been received. If you have any other questions about this program, the FAFHC can be reached at 1-855-467-4344 or 416-212-9164.

Application forms and a guide to assist you can be found at

https://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/financial_assistance_for_families_of_homicide_victims

Victim Quick Response Program (VQRP)

VQRP provides immediate assistance to victims of violence crime including homicide, attempted murder, serious assault, sexual assault, human trafficking, hate crime.

Eligible victims who have no other financial means can access the following services:

- Emergency expenses to secure premises to ensure immediate safety, emergency accommodation, meals
- Transportation and dependent care costs for a family member who must identify a homicide victim
- Crime scene clean up requiring specialized services
- Funeral expenses to assist families of homicide victims
- Counselling to provide short-term, early intervention counselling to help victims of serious crime

Eligibility:

- Applications for emergency expenses must be received within 45 days of crime, counselling and related transportation costs within 90 days. Applications for counselling or related transportation costs must be received within 90 days after date of crime
- Is a victim of violent crime that occurred in Ontario- any funds awarded will be used in Ontario
- Have no other financial resources to assist
- Police report (or report to another agency) must have been made

Applications:

For more information on the Victim Quick Response Program, please contact Victim Services of Lanark County at 613-284-8380 or visit www.victimserviceslanark.ca

Internet Child Exploitation Counselling (ICE) Program

Eligibility:

- Available for persons who have been sexually exploited on the internet, and who was under the age of 18 when the crime occurred.
- Survivors or members of survivor’s immediate family who need counselling services may be eligible.

Applications:

For more information on the ICE program, please contact Victim Services of Lanark County at 613-284-8380 or visit www.victimserviceslanark.ca

Ontario Works (OW)

Ontario works is a social services program designed to help those in financial need to meet the costs of basic living expenses.

Eligibility:

- Need money right away to pay for food and housing costs
- Be willing to participate in activities that will help you find a job (as well as other adult members of the household)
- Live in Ontario
- Money received depends on family size, income, assets, housing costs

Application:

For more information, please call Phone: 613-267-4200 ext. 2140 or 1-800-267-8146 or visit <http://www.county.lanark.on.ca/Page1914.aspx>

Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

Eligibility:

- Must be over 18 years of age and live in Ontario
- Are in financial need
- Have a substantial physical or mental disability that meets the definition of a “person with a disability” as defined by the *Ontario Disability Support Program Act*

Application:

For more information, please contact 613-283-1165 or toll free at 1-800-267-7911.

Ontario Worker’s Safety Insurance Board (WSIB)

Eligibility:

The WSIB provides workplace protection and support for workers covered if they are injured on the job and means that employers will generally not be sued by covered workers if a work-related injury occurs.

To be eligible for benefits under this program, you must file a claim with the WSIB within six months of the date of the incident.

Application:

Workers (or surviving spouses) should contact the WSIB as soon as possible after they are injured to apply for benefits. The WSIB can be contacted at 416-344-1000 or 1-800-387-0750