



Counseling Expenses and The Victims Compensation Assistance Program

Individuals eligible for counseling expense reimbursement include:

- Adult victim (\$5,000)
- Minor victim (\$10,000)
- Witness present at a crime scene (\$1,500)
- Relative of victim – spouse, children, parents, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren (\$2,500 for personal injury crime or \$5,000 for homicide)
- Individual engaged to be married to the victim (\$2,500 for personal injury crime or \$5,000 for homicide)
- Person who discovers the body of a homicide victim (\$1,500)
- Anyone residing in the same household as the victim (\$2,500 for personal injury or \$5,000 for homicide)
- Person responsible for the victim's welfare (\$2,500 for personal injury crime or \$5,000 for homicide)

If you have any questions regarding eligibility or additional services, please contact VCAP.

Telephone: (800) 233-2339

Fax: (717) 787-4306

Email: ra-davesupport@pa.gov

The Commonwealth's Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP) is committed to helping victims and their families ease the financial burden crime imposes upon them. Counseling expenses can be considered when it is performed by, or under the supervisor of a psychiatrist, psychologist, licensed professional counselor or licensed social worker.

To be considered for reimbursement for counseling, the following will need to be provided:

- Bills in the name of the victim/claimant. Include the name and address of the provider, the date of service, the type of service provided, and the amount charged for each service.
- If payments have been made to the provider, submit receipts to verify these payments.
- If expenses were covered by medical insurance, documentation from the insurance company must be submitted showing what insurance covered and any remaining balance. If the provider is out-of-network, the Program will need an explanation why an in-network provider was not used.

**A verification form will be sent to the provider to verify the percentage that is crime related.

The payment process:

- All required documentation must be received before any payments can be processed. The sooner VCAP receives the requested information, the sooner any payments can be made by VCAP.
- If payment is owed to the provider, VCAP will send payment directly to the provider. Payments owed to the provider are released from the PA Department of Treasury within 2-4 weeks of being approved.
- Payments owed to the victim/claimant that total \$5,000.00 or less are released within 2 business days of being approved. Any remaining portion above \$5,000.00 is released from the PA Department of Treasury within 2-4 weeks of being approved.