



## Loss of Earnings for Homicide Survivors and The Victims Compensation Assistance Program

The Commonwealth's Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP) is committed to helping victims and their families ease the financial burden crime imposes upon them. An individual, who as a result of a crime, misses time from work may be eligible for loss of earnings in certain situations.

### Eligible loss of earnings includes:

- A spouse, parent, or child of the deceased victim is eligible for up to two weeks of loss of earnings for trauma. The individual who assumes the financial obligation to pay for the funeral expense is also eligible for up to two weeks of loss of earnings for trauma.
- Up to two days of loss of earnings for a claimant to make the funeral arrangements
- Up to two days for a claimant to accompany the body/remains to an alternate location for interment.

### To be considered for reimbursement of loss of earnings on homicide claims, the following needs to be provided:

- The full name, address and telephone number of the victim/claimant's employer. VCAP will contact the employer to verify the missed time due to the crime.
- Copies of two pay stubs immediately prior to the crime. If paystubs are not available, W2 forms and most recently filed IRS tax returns, including schedules can be submitted.
- Documentation of any pay received such as paid sick, vacation, personal or disability pay received during the time missed from work.
- Documentation of other benefits received such as Social Security Survivor or Death benefit, life insurance, etc.

\*\*Loss of earnings may not be eligible if the victim contributed to the crime.

### The Payment Process:

- All required documentation must be received before any payments can be processed. The quicker VCAP receives the requested information, the sooner any payments can be made by VCAP.
- Payment will be sent to the claimant. Payments owed to the claimant, up to \$5,000, are released within 2 business days of being approved. Any remaining portion above \$5,000 is released from the PA Department of Treasury within 2-4 weeks of being approved.

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

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