

**Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (VCAP)**  
**Victims Compensation Assistance Program**  
**(800) -233-2339**

*Human Trafficking*

The Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP) was created, as a reimbursement program, by statute in 1976 to assist victims with their financial losses incurred as a direct result of a crime. There are requirements that must be met for a claim to be determined eligible for compensation. The following is an overview of the benefits the victims of human trafficking may be eligible for through the VCAP. Victims must file a report with or be identified by appropriate law enforcement and cooperate with the investigation and prosecution, unless good cause is shown. In order for a victim to be eligible a claim must have been filed within two years from the date of the crime.

**Counseling**

- \$10,000 Counseling for a direct victim minor (under age 18 at time of the crime)
- \$ 5,000 Counseling for a direct victim adult
- \$ 2,500 Relative of a direct victim – anyone related to the direct victim within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity. This includes spouses, children, parents, siblings, grandparents, and grandchildren, in-laws (including mother, father, sons, daughters, brothers or sisters-in-law). Also includes step-relations, as listed above.
- \$ 2,500 Shared Household – anyone residing in the same household with the direct victim.
- \$ 2,500 An individual responsible for the direct victim’s welfare. This includes legal guardians and foster parents.

Counseling is eligible for reimbursement only if it is performed by or under the supervision of a psychiatrist, psychologist, licensed professional counselor or licensed social worker.

**Travel**

- A direct victim or eligible claimant who incurs expenses traveling to or from a place for medical care, counseling, or to a pharmacy to fill a prescription.
- A direct victim, or in the case of a minor victim or incapacitated adult, the guardian or person who transports them to court would be eligible for travel reimbursement (for crimes occurring on or after 12/12/2009).

**Medical**

- A direct victim who as a result of a crime suffers from a physical injury may be compensated for medical care and treatment as approved by the VCAP, for up to \$35,000.

**Loss of Earnings**

- An employed victim who loses time from work or loses income as a result of the mental or physical injuries sustained in a crime may be eligible for up to \$15,000.
- Loss of Earnings must be verifiable through pay stubs and employment records.
- A victim who takes time off work to attend their court proceedings.
- A family member or member of the victim’s household who takes time off work to accompany a minor victim to medical or counseling appointments or court proceedings.

**Relocation**

- A direct victim and individuals residing in their households who needs to immediately relocate for their health and safety, up to \$1,000.

The Program may also be able to consider the cost of the tattoo removal for victims who were tattooed as part of the human trafficking.

A Social Security number is not required to file a claim with the VCAP.

The program is the payer of last resort, which means if a victim of crime has any other way to have their losses paid they must go to that source first, i.e. insurance.

This list are the most common expenses a human trafficking victim may be eligible for and may not include all the benefits that can be paid through the VCAP.