



## Victim Assist Queensland

### Table of Costs

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This Table of Costs is issued pursuant to section 132 of the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009* (the Act) as an appropriate guide for reasonable costs for counselling services, medical treatment, obtaining a report from a counsellor or health professional, ambulance services or incidental travel. Nothing in this Table of Costs supersedes or overrides the requirements of the legislation.

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#### Costs for Medical Treatment and Counselling Services

1. Victim Assist Queensland will reimburse the costs of medical treatment and counselling services for an eligible applicant at the current rates specified in WorkCover Queensland's tables of costs – available at:

<https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/service-providers/fees>.

#### Obtaining Medical Reports

2. Victim Assist Queensland may request that a health professional complete the following reports under the Act, namely:
  - [Health Practitioner Examination Report \(Form 4\)](#). Under section 73 of the Act, a government assessor may ask an applicant seeking financial assistance to undergo an examination by a health practitioner nominated by the government assessor, so that a report of the examination can be provided to the government assessor.
  - [Comprehensive clinical report](#). Under section 64 and section 74 of the Act, a government assessor may ask an applicant for further information or a document the government assessor reasonably requires to decide the application. This may include a comprehensive clinical report.
  - [Progress report](#). Under section 64 and section 74 of the Act, a government assessor may ask an applicant for further information or a document the government assessor reasonably requires to decide the application. This may include a progress report from a treating health professional.
3. Reasonable expenses for medical reports, having regard to the Table of Costs below, will be reimbursed to the health professional by Victim Assist Queensland.

4. Please see the following links to WorkCover Queensland's Table of Costs for a list of the reasonable costs for each type of report.
  - Specialist Supplementary Services Table of Costs  
<https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/service-providers/fees>
5. The fees in the Table of Costs are payable only to health professionals who meet the provider eligibility criteria outlined in the current Medicare Benefits Schedule.

### Ambulance Services

6. Ambulance services are free to the majority of people residing in Queensland.
7. Should an ambulance fee be incurred by a person who is not eligible for free ambulance services, the standard ambulance fee will be reimbursed by Victim Assist Queensland.
8. Persons not eligible for free ambulance services include overseas students over 25 or a person from another state who is a victim of an act of violence committed in Queensland.

### Incidental Travel Costs

9. Schedule 3 of the Act defines "incidental travel" for an injury and states the purpose for which the travel can be reimbursed and at what distance reimbursement applies. Incidental travel can only be claimed for travel from a person's place of residence or place of work to another place, or vice versa, in relation to:
  - counselling or medical treatment for an injury; or
  - attending a medical examination under section 73 of the Act.

<b>INCIDENTAL TRAVEL</b>		
<b>Purpose of Travel</b>	<b>Between</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
Travel to counselling or medical treatment for injury	Residence and place of treatment/counselling <b>or</b> Work and place of treatment/counselling <b>or</b> Place of treatment/counselling and residence <b>or</b> Place of treatment/counselling and work	The distance between the two locations (one way) is at least 20km and the medical treatment or counselling service is not reasonably available closer to the person's residence or work. <b>or</b> The distance reasonably travelled between the two locations during seven (7) consecutive days is 150km and the medical treatment or counselling service is not reasonably available closer

<b>INCIDENTAL TRAVEL</b>		
<b>Purpose of Travel</b>	<b>Between</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
		to the person's residence or work.
Travel to undergo a medical examination under section 73 of the Act	Residence and place of the examination <b>or</b> Work and place of the examination <b>or</b> Place of the examination and residence <b>or</b> Place of the examination and work	The distance one way is at least 20km.

10. Under the exceptional circumstances component of financial assistance, a government assessor may consider transport costs that fall outside the Incidental travel table above, if the transport costs will significantly help an applicant who is a related victim recover from the primary victim's death. In deciding whether exceptional circumstances exist, an applicant's circumstances or the nature of the act of violence are taken into account to determine whether the act of violence had an unusual, special or out of the ordinary effect on the applicant (section 28 of the Act).
11. Considerations when assessing transport costs under exceptional circumstances:
- the transport options appropriate and accessible to the applicant;
  - the availability of public transport;
  - whether the applicant owns or has access to a private vehicle;
  - the availability of transport at the time of treatment/appointments;
  - the appropriateness of the mode of transport to the applicant's needs and circumstances;
  - the need for a companion or carer to attend appointments with the applicant;
  - whether the applicant requires accommodation before or after attending the appointment/treatment.
12. If more than one transport option is available, the government assessor will approve the least expensive appropriate option. If an applicant wants to use a significantly more expensive travel option and there is not a justifiable reason to do so, Victim Assist Queensland will reimburse the applicant to the value of the least expensive appropriate option and the applicant will be required to pay the gap.

## Use of Private Vehicle

13. If Victim Assist Queensland approves the use of a private vehicle for incidental travel to counselling or medical treatment; costs will be reimbursed in accordance with the Incidental Travel Table of Costs using the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) [cents per kilometre method](#).
14. The ATO rate is published on its website – available at: <https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Income-and-deductions/Deductions-you-can-claim/Transport-and-travel-expenses/Motor-vehicle-and-car-expenses/>

## Use of Hire Car

15. A government assessor may consider reimbursing hire car fees for the purpose of travelling to medical treatment or counselling sessions. Considerations include:
  - the cost of the car hire; and
  - the cost of petrol.
16. The ATO [cents per kilometre method](#) will not apply and the kilometric rate will not be paid, as this allowance factors in depreciation and wear and tear on a privately owned vehicle.
17. The applicant will be required to:
  - demonstrate the need to have used a hire car, e.g. no public transport available and the applicant did not have access to any other transport options;
  - state the period of time of the hire and provide justification for that timeframe, e.g. copy of hire agreement;
  - provide evidence of the distance travelled for treatment / counselling purposes;
  - provide copies of receipts for:
    - car hire; and
    - petrol.

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