



Victims Assistance Unit

Guideline 3

Determining Financial Assistance for Medical and Counselling Expenses

This guideline is issued pursuant to section 131 of the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009* (the Act) for Government assessors on the exercise of their powers in assessing claims for financial assistance. Nothing in this guideline supersedes or overrides the requirements of the legislation.

1. This guideline describes how reasonable medical and counselling expenses should be determined by an assessor in a grant of financial assistance.
2. Reasonable medical and counselling expenses are to be based on the Victim Assist Queensland Table of Costs.
3. An assessor may exercise discretion in granting financial assistance for reasonable medical and counselling expenses. In doing so, an assessor should not grant financial assistance in excess of the Table of Costs unless they are satisfied that there are no reasonable treatment alternatives within the scope of the Victim Assist Queensland Table of Costs.
4. An assessor is to consider and deduct any amounts payable by Medicare, or pursuant to private health insurance, or other relevant insurance, prior to making a grant of assistance.

John Sosso
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