

Recognition gives strength. Together involved.

# Are you a victim of a violent or sexual crime?

And do you have serious physical or psychological problems as a result?

Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven is there for you.



## What does Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven do for you?

Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven is there for anyone who is a victim of a violent or sexual crime and has suffered serious physical or psychological problems as a result.

If it will take a long time for you to get better, or if you will not get better at all, you can apply for compensation from us. This is an amount of money you may spend as you wish. With the compensation, we acknowledge on behalf of the government that you are a victim. We hope that this compensation provides you with a sense of support.

## Who is Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven for?

It's not only victims of violent and sexual crimes who can apply for compensation from us, we are also here for surviving relatives, close relatives and witnesses.

#### **Surviving relative**

Did someone in your family die because of a violent crime, or because of someone else's very careless behaviour (criminally negligent homicide)? Then you can also apply for compensation from us.

You are a *surviving relative* if, for example, you are the spouse, (registered) partner, parent, child or (half) brother / (half) sister of the person who died.

#### **Close relative**

Has anyone in your family been a victim of a violent or sexual crime? And does that person have physical or psychological problems as a result that might never go away? Then you can apply for compensation from us.

You are a *close relative* if, for example, you are the spouse, (registered) partner, parent, child or (half) brother / (half) sister of the victim.

#### Witness

Did you witness a violent or sexual crime, or see the consequences of such a crime? And has this caused you serious psychological problems? Then you can apply for compensation from us.

### What is a violent crime?

In a violent crime, someone has intentionally (i.e. deliberately) used violence, or threatened violence. The intention was to hurt or injure the victim. Examples of violent crimes include:

- physical abuse
- threat of violence (with or without a weapon)
- robbery (i.e. theft with violence)
- · arson or explosion with immediate danger to the victim
- domestic violence
- stalking
- human trafficking

#### What is a sexual crime?

The Sexual Crimes Act has existed since 1 July 2024. Under that Act, it is a criminal offence to have sexual contact with someone who does not want it.

Did someone know that the other person did not want sexual contact? Or should or could they have known that the other person did not want sexual contact? Then it is a sexual crime.

## The conditions for compensation

If you want to apply for compensation, you should know that there are some conditions for that.

- 1. You were the victim of an intentional violent crime or a sexual crime. The perpetrator intentionally (deliberately) used violence against you, or the perpetrator threatened violence. So it was not an accident. Or the perpetrator had sexual contact with you when you did not want it.
- 2. The crime has caused you serious health problems. The crime has caused you serious physical or psychological problems. We call this 'injury'. For example, you have had an operation, or you have been to a medical specialist or psychologist for treatment. So it will take a long time for you to get better. Or you may not get better at all.
- **3.** The crime happened in the Netherlands. The violent or sexual crime happened in the Netherlands. Or on board a Dutch plane or Dutch boat. If you do not live in the Netherlands, but were the victim of a violent or sexual crime in the Netherlands, you can also apply for an allowance.
- 4. You had no personal share in the crime yourself. We look at your own role in the crime. For example, did you use force first or did you challenge the other person? Or did you participate in a criminal activity such as drug trafficking? Then you might not get any money, or a lower amount.
- 5. You are not going to receive compensation from the perpetrator or any insurance company. If you have received compensation from the perpetrator or an insurance company, this amount will be deducted from our compensation.
- 6. The crime happened no more than ten years ago. Your application must reach us within 10 years of the violent or sexual crime. If you apply for the compensation later, you can only do so if you have a good reason. If you were under 18 when the crime happened, the 10-year period starts on your 18th birthday.

#### Good to know:

- You can also apply to us for compensation for violent crimes in the Caribbean Netherlands (Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba). This can only be done for crimes that happened from 1 January 2017 onwards.
- You cannot submit an application for a violent crime that happened in the Netherlands before 1 January 1973.

#### What does the compensation mean?

The compensation is a sum of money you get from us for what happened. It is not compensation for damages or for pain and suffering. You will receive a lump sum of money once. And you may spend this amount as you wish.

The amount of the compensation depends on your injury. In general, the more serious your injury, the higher the monetary amount. We work with 6 injury categories. For example, category 1 comes with a compensation of  $\notin$ 1,000, category 6 with a compensation of  $\notin$ 35,000. The latter is rare.

With the compensation, we acknowledge that you are a victim and give something back to you. Even without the perpetrator having been convicted or having gone to trial. This is how we want to help you regain confidence in society.



#### How do you apply for compensation?

Go to www.schadefonds.nl/en/. You will find the application forms there.

#### Want to know more?

Check out our website www.schadefonds.nl/en/

## Questions? We are happy to help.

You can call us on +31 (0)70 414 2000. Or email **info@schadefonds.nl**.



This leaflet was published in May 2025.