<u>Victim Quick Response Program+ (VQRP+)</u>

What is the Victim Quick Response Program+ (VQRP+)?

The Victim Quick Response Program+ (VQRP+) is an administrative program designed to support direct victims, their immediate family members, and witnesses in the immediate aftermath of violent crimes by providing support with essential expenses in order to lessen the impact of the crime, enhance safety, and meet immediate practical needs arising from the commission of the crime.

VQRP+ is a program of last resort. Support is available to help cover the cost of:

- Safety expenses;
- Practical assistance expenses;
- Travel and associated expenses;
- Crime scene clean-up;
- Counselling services, traditional Indigenous health services, and associated transportation expenses; and
- Supports for victims with serious injuries and for families of homicide victims.

What eligibility criteria must a victim meet to receive benefits from VQRP+?

To be eligible for VQRP+ benefits specific criteria must be met including such things as type of crime, and timeline between crime and application.

The victim/recipient is either a direct victim, immediate family member of the direct victim, or witness of one of the following eligible crime types:

- Attempt to commit murder
- Child abuse
- Criminal harassment
- Elder abuse
- Hate crimes
- Historical child sexual abuse (eligible for counselling-related services only)
- Homicide
- Human trafficking
- Intimate partner violence
- Non-consensual distribution of intimate images
- Sexual assault
- · Serious assault; or
- Voyeurism

Other criteria apply. Please contact the local VQRP+ service provider to determine eligibility. For a list of VQRP+ service providers, please see the attached Appendix A.

How much time, from the date of the incident, do victims have to submit their application to VQRP+?

The below chart outlines the submission deadline for the various types of available benefits. Victims with specific questions about VQRP+ timelines and extensions should be referred to their local service delivery organization.

Support	Timeline
Supports for Immediate Needs	Applications for supports for immediate needs must be submitted within 45 calendars days from the date of the crime .
	In the case of an accused who has been released on bail, applications will be accepted within 45 calendar days from the date of release for safety-related expenses, provided the victim has not already accessed the same supports
Counselling and Traditional Indigenous Health Services	Applications for counselling, traditional Indigenous health services and associated transportation must be submitted within 6 months from the date of the crime except in the following circumstances:
	Where the adult victim/recipient is under 18 years, the application must be submitted within 6 months from the date of disclosure of the crime to police, an SDO or other social service provider (for counselling services, traditional Indigenous health services and associated transportation only).
	Where the adult victim/recipient was victimized as a child (under 18 years), the application must be submitted within 90 calendar days from the date of disclosure of the crime to police, an SDO or other social services provider (for counselling services, traditional Indigenous health services and associated transportation only).
Serious Injury Supports	Applications for serious injury supports must be submitted within one year from the date of the crime .

Homicide Survivor Supports	Applications for the homicide survivor support must be submitted within one year from the date a death has been deemed to be a homicide.
Supports for HT Victims/Recipients	Applications for HT victims/recipients must be submitted within one year from the date of the crime (i.e., the last HT incident.
	Where the victim/recipient is a direct victim of HT who is under 18 years, applications may be submitted either one year from the date of the crime or within 6 months from the date of disclosure , whichever time period is greater.

Will the Victim Quick Response Program+ have awards for pain and suffering?

The Victim Quick Response Program+ does not include awards for pain and suffering.

VQRP+ service providers are able to provide information on the range of supports offered by the VQRP+. For a list of VQRP+ service providers, please see the attached Appendix A.

Where can I direct clients when they have questions about the changes to the CICB and their existing applications?

Clients can contact the CICB directly for more information on the CICB process and their application.

The CICB can be reached at:

Toll-Free Telephone: 1-800-372-7463

Website address: http://www.sjto.gov.on.ca/cicb/

Email: info.cicb@ontario.ca

The CICB will process all existing applications before ceasing its operations.

Where can I direct a client who would like to apply for CICB <u>after September 30, 2019</u>?

The client should be notified that the CICB is no longer accepting new applications after September 30, 2019. Questions about the CICB and their operations should be directed to the CICB at 1-800-372-7463 or info.cicb@ontario.ca.

Clients wishing to access VQRP+ can contact a VQRP+ service provider in their community to determine eligibility for VQRP+ services. Please see attached Appendix A for a list of VQRP+ service providers.

Clients may also contact the Victim Support Line at 1-888-579-2888 or use the Ministry's online Victim Services Directory at http://services.findhelp.ca/ovss to find a local VQRP+ service providers.

Where can I direct clients when they have general questions about VQRP+?

As of October 1, 2019, VQRP+ provides victims needing help with essential expenses as the result of a crime with a single point of entry to available supports and enable victims to receive services that meet their immediate needs faster and easier. Victims can contact a local VQRP+ service provider to access the program. For a list of VQRP+ service providers, please see the attached Appendix A.

Clients may also contact the Victim Support Line at 1-888-579-2888 or use the Ministry's online Victim Services Directory at http://services.findhelp.ca/ovss to find a local VQRP+ service provider.

How do victims submit their application for VQRP+?

Victims can contact a local VQRP+ service provider in their community to obtain information about the program and to determine eligibility. For a list of VQRP+ service providers, please see the attached Appendix A.

Clients may also contact the Victim Support Line at 1-888-579-2888 or use the Ministry's online Victim Services Directory at http://services.findhelp.ca/ovss to find a local VQRP+ service provider.

Where can I direct clients who have questions about the Financial Assistance for Families of Homicide Victims (FAFHV) program?

Clients who currently have an application with Financial Assistance for Families of Homicide Victims will be contacted regarding next steps. For more information, clients can contact the Financial Assistance for Families of Homicide Victims program at 1-855-467-4344, or 416-212-9164 if in the Greater Toronto Area.

Where can I direct clients who have concerns or other feedback about the government's announcement regarding changes to the victim compensation system (i.e. CICB and VQRP+)?

Clients can contact the Ministry of the Attorney General with their concerns by email at: attorneygeneral@ontario.ca.

Appendix A: List of VQRP+ Service Providers across Ontario

<u>Victim Services Toronto</u>

Victim Services of Peel

Victim Services of York Region

Ottawa Victim Services/Sevices aux victimes d'Ottawa

Victim Services of Durham Region

Victim Services of Middlesex County

Victim Services of Haldimand-Norfolk-New Credit

Victim Services of Waterloo Region

Sudbury and Area Victim Services/Services aux victimes du Grand Sudbury

Victim Services of Hastings, Prince Edward, Lennox & Addington Counties

Victim Services of Sarnia-Lambton

Chatham-Kent Victim Services

Victim Services Bruce Grey Perth

Victim Services of Leeds & Grenville

Victim Services of Renfrew County Inc.

Victim Services of Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry and Akwesasne

Victims Services of Brant

Timmins and District Victim Services

Victim Services of Algoma

Victim Services of Peterborough and Northumberland

Niagara Victim Crisis Support Service

Victim Services of Nipissing District

Caledon\Dufferin Victim Services

Victim Services of Windsor and Essex County

Victim Services Wellington

Thunder Bay and Area Victim Services

Kawartha/Haliburton Victim Services

Services aux victimes Prescott-Russell Victim Services

Barrie and Area Victim Crisis Assistance and Referral Service

District of Parry Sound Victim Crisis Assistance and Referral Service

North Simcoe Victim Crisis Services

Victim Services of Huron County

Superior North Victim Services

Muskoka Victim Services

Victim Services-Lanark County

Victim Services of Kingston and Frontenac

Temiskaming & District Victim Crisis Assistance and Referral Service

Victim Assistance Services of Oxford County

Rainy River District Victim Services Program

Wawa and Area Victim Services

Victim Services Elgin

Sunset Area Victim Crisis Assistance and Referral Service

Manitoulin-North Shore Victim Crisis Assistance and Referral Services

Hearst, Kap., S-R-F. Counselling Services/Services de Counselling de Hearst, Kap., S-

<u>R-F.</u>

Greenstone Victim Services

Ah-Shawah-Bin Sioux Lookout/Lac Seul Victim Support Services

Services aux Victimes Cochrane-Smooth Rock Falls Victim Services

Hamilton Police Service

Halton Police Services Board

Mushkegowuk Council, Ininiwak E Wichihitochik Victim Services

Matawa First Nations Victim Services Program

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN)

Appendix B: Who to Call-Overview

VQRP+

Questions about program and eligibility, or about existing application

Local VQRP+ service provider.

To find, contact Victim Support Line (1-888-579-2888) OR Victim Services

Victim Services
Directory
(http://services.findhel
p.ca/ovss)

CICB

Question about existing application

.

CICB at:
1-800-372-7463
OR
Info.cicb@ontario.ca

FAFHV

Question about existing application

Į.

FAFHV Program at: 1-855-467-4344 OR 416-212-9164

GENERAL

Concerns/feedback about government's approach to victim compensation

The Ministry of the Attorney General at: attorneygeneral@ont ario.ca