

# National Redress Scheme

For people who have experienced  
institutional child sexual abuse

## Who can apply to the National Redress Scheme?

### Easy Read fact sheet



# How to use this fact sheet



We want to warn you that this fact sheet talks about **child sexual abuse** in **institutions**.



We explain what these words mean on pages 5 to 6 of this fact sheet.



This subject may be very hard to:

- read about
- talk about.

It may bring up difficult feelings and memories.



The Australian Government wrote this fact sheet. When you see the word 'we', it means the Australian Government.



We have written this fact sheet to make it as easy to read as we can.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



You may decide to ask for help to read this fact sheet.

A support person like a friend or family member may be able to help you.



We also have free and confidential Redress Support Services that can help you.

These can be found on our website at

[www.nationalredress.gov.au/support](http://www.nationalredress.gov.au/support)

There are services that can help:



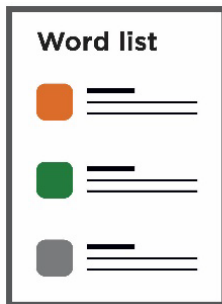
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples



- people with disability.



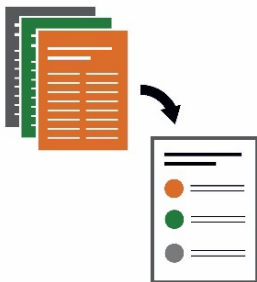
You can also call the National Redress Scheme on **1800 737 377**.



We have written some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 10.



This fact sheet is from a set of fact sheets about the National Redress Scheme.



You can find the whole set on our website at [www.nationalredress.gov.au/about/resources](http://www.nationalredress.gov.au/about/resources)

# Who can apply for the Scheme?

You can apply if:



- what happened to you included child sexual abuse
- you experienced child sexual abuse by an institution
- child sexual abuse happened while an institution was supposed to be looking after you
- the institution is part of the Scheme.

Child sexual abuse is when a person younger than 18 is included in or shown sexual acts:



- they don't understand
- the community thinks are wrong
- that are against the law.

Child sexual abuse includes:

- sexual touching of any part of the body, with or without clothes, including with an object
- sex of any kind with a child
- showing a child sexual acts.



Child sexual abuse is:

- wrong
- a crime
- never the child's fault.

An institution is an organisation set up:

- by the government
- for a religion
- for teaching and learning
- to run a business
- for a social activity
- for sporting activities.



The Scheme does not include child sexual abuse by a friend or family member unless an institution was looking after you at the time.



To apply you must be:

- an Australian citizen
- or
- a permanent resident.



The child sexual abuse must have happened before:

- you turned 18
- 1 July 2018 – when the Scheme started.



You can apply for the Scheme if you are under 18.

But you need to turn 18 before the Scheme ends in 2028.



We can't offer you redress before you turn 18.



The institution that was responsible for the child sexual abuse needs to have joined the Scheme.



We have a list of institutions that have joined the Scheme on our website at

[www.nationalredress.gov.au/institutions](http://www.nationalredress.gov.au/institutions)

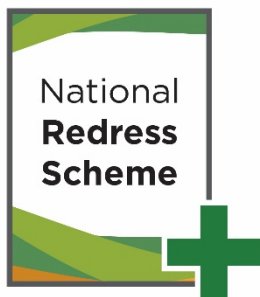


We update the list when other institutions join the Scheme.



Or you can find out which institutions have joined the Scheme by calling

**1800 737 377.**



The government is asking institutions to join the Scheme as soon as they can.



You can apply for the Scheme if you have been convicted of a crime and gone to prison.





If you have been to prison, we'll think about:

- your crime
- how long you were in prison.



Some people cannot get redress because they committed very serious crimes.



If you are in prison you might have to wait until you get out of prison before you can apply.



But this might not be true for everybody. It will depend on your own case.

# Word list

## Child sexual abuse



Child sexual abuse is when a person younger than 18 is included in or shown sexual acts:

- they don't understand
- the community thinks are wrong
- that are against the law.

Child sexual abuse includes:

- sexual touching of any part of the body, with or without clothes, including with an object
- sex of any kind with a child
- showing a child sexual acts.



Child sexual abuse is:

- wrong
- a crime
- never the child's fault.

## Institution

An organisation set up:



- by the government
- for a religion
- for teaching and learning
- to run a business
- for a social activity
- for sporting activities.

## Contact us



You can contact us to find out more about the Scheme.



**1800 737 377**



**[www.nationalredress.gov.au](http://www.nationalredress.gov.au)**



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