

Forced or Involuntary Sterilization Compensation Program



Frequently Asked Questions (Rev. 04/2022) [ENG]

Who is eligible?

- Surviving individuals who were sterilized while at or living in state-run hospitals, homes and institutions from 1909 through 1979; or
- Survivors of forced or involuntary sterilizations in California state prisons or other correctional facilities while in custody of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation after 1979.

How do I know if I qualify?

- For survivors of eugenics sterilization:
 - Sterilization procedure occurred between 1909 and 1979
 - Claimant was sterilized while a resident or at a state hospital, home or institution run by the California Department of State Hospitals or the California Department of Developmental Services
 - A list of the state-run facilities covered by the program can be found on the [California Legislative Information website](#)
 - The victim was alive as of July 1, 2021
- For survivors of forced or involuntary sterilization in prison:
 - Sterilization procedure occurred after 1979
 - Claimant was sterilized while in the custody of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
 - Sterilization was not required in an emergency life-saving medical situation or due to a chemical sterilization program for convicted sex offenders
 - Sterilization was for birth control purposes
 - The claimant was sterilized under one of the following conditions:
 - without consent,
 - with consent given less than 30 days before sterilization,
 - with consent given without counseling or consultation, or
 - with no record or documentation of providing consent

How much money will I receive?

A total of \$4.5 million in reparation payments will be distributed evenly among those who apply and are eligible. The exact payment to each survivor will depend on how many eligible applicants there are.

When will I receive compensation?

An initial payment will be made within 60 days of notice of confirmed eligibility. After all applications are processed and all initial payments are made, any remaining program funds will be disbursed evenly to the qualified recipients by March 31, 2024.

When can I apply?

CalVCB will accept applications from January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2023.

Where do I get an application?

Applications, information, and resources are available on the CalVCB website at [California Forced or Involuntary Sterilization Compensation Program](#) or upon request from the Customer Service Unit at 1-800-777-9229, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Additionally, you can request an application by mail at CalVCB, c/o Forced or Involuntary Sterilization Compensation Program, P.O. Box 591, Sacramento, CA 95812-0591.

How do I submit my application?

The application may be submitted to CalVCB by mail, email or fax. Return the application to:

California Victim Compensation Board
c/o Forced or Involuntary Sterilization Compensation Program
P.O. Box 591, Sacramento, CA 95812-0591

OR

Email: FISCP@victims.ca.gov

OR

Fax: 916-491-6429

Contact 1-800-777-9229 if you are unable to complete a print or electronic application.

Is my application confidential?

Yes. Applications are confidential and CalVCB will not disclose to the public any record pertaining to a claimant's application. For the limited purpose of verifying claimant eligibility, information may be confidentially shared with other entities. Visit the CalVCB website for our complete [Privacy Policy](#).

Can I apply on a survivor's behalf?

Yes, an application may be submitted on behalf of the claimant by the legally authorized representative, who must provide documentation showing proof of designation for the claimant. See the application form and instructions for directions.

What can I expect after I apply?

The individual submitting the application will receive a letter from CalVCB either confirming a complete application or requesting additional information.

Once the application is screened and deemed complete, the application will be considered for eligibility. Upon completion of the eligibility review, a letter will be sent out with the determination.

- If eligibility is verified, a letter will be sent confirming that the claimant is qualified for compensation.
- If eligibility is not verified, the application will be denied. Notification will be sent with the necessary appeal information.

Can I assign a trust or designate a beneficiary?

Yes, claimants can assign a trust as the recipient of compensation or designate a beneficiary. See the application form and instructions for directions.

How can I learn more?

Visit CalVCB's website at [California Forced or Involuntary Sterilization Compensation Program](#), send an email to FISCP@victims.ca.gov or contact the CalVCB Customer Service Unit at 1-800-777-9229.