



HealingFoundation

Understanding Redress

for Stolen Generations Survivors



Redress or Reparations? What are they and what am I eligible for?

Redress (sometimes called reparations) are measures taken by governments and other authorities to recognise harm caused by their past actions to Stolen Generation survivors. Each scheme is different, but they usually include payments, support programs, and apologies as ways to acknowledge the harm and distress caused.

This leaflet has information about current national, state, and territory redress schemes that Stolen Generations survivors may be eligible for and where to go to learn more.

Applying for redress is free. Each scheme has support services available to give advice and to help with applications.



Summary of schemes

Redress schemes are open for Stolen Generations survivors who were forcibly removed in:

- the Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and Jervis Bay Territory
- Victoria
- Western Australia.

Schemes in South Australia, New South Wales and Tasmania have closed.

Queensland has never had a redress scheme.

The information in this leaflet is current as at May 2026. Up to date scheme information is available at healingfoundation.org.au

About The Healing Foundation

This information has been prepared by The Healing Foundation. The Healing Foundation is a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led organisation that works with Stolen Generations survivors, their families and communities to support healing and address the ongoing impacts of forced removal policies.

Through this work, The Healing Foundation has built extensive expertise in what best practice redress looks like in Australia. This includes payment benchmarks, wrap-around support requirements, and after-support that meets the needs of Stolen Generations survivors and their families.

We encourage you to reach out directly to the relevant scheme/s to learn more and discuss options to apply for redress.

Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

About the scheme

The Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme was established for survivors in the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), or Jervis Bay who were removed as children from their families or communities. The scheme recognises that government policies of removing children from their families and communities caused harm.

The scheme provides eligible applicants access to:

- A payment of \$75,000
- A healing assistance payment of \$7,000
- The option of a Personal Acknowledgement (an apology in writing, face to face, or both).

Who is eligible?

The scheme is open to those who were removed from their families by government, non-government officers or agencies when they were a child under the age of 18. The removal must have taken place in one of these places and times:

- Northern Territory: before 1 July 1978
- ACT: before 11 May 1989
- Jervis Bay Territory (no end date).

A person can apply on behalf of a family member who has passed away if they:

- Were an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person removed from their family as a child
- Were removed in one of the places and times above
- Were removed by a government, non-government officer or agent
- Passed away on or after 5 August 2021.

If you're not sure if your experience meets the criteria, you can still contact the scheme or a support service.

Applications close: 31 August 2027

Learn more

Website: territoriesredress.gov.au

Email: help@territoriesredress.gov.au

Phone: 1800 566 111

Support Services: territoriesredress.gov.au

Knowmore: knowmore.org.au

Western Australia Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

About the scheme

The WA Stolen Generations Redress Scheme is for survivors who were removed as children from their families and communities in Western Australia. The scheme was established to provide recognition of the harm caused by past policies of child removal.

The scheme provides eligible applicants access to:

- A payment of \$85,000
- The option of a personal acknowledgement (an apology).

Who is eligible?

The scheme is open to applications from survivors who were removed from their families in Western Australia before 1 July 1972. They must have been under the age of 18 at the time of removal.

A person can apply on behalf of a family member who has passed away if they:

- Were an Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander person removed from their family in Western Australia before 1 July 1972
- Were under the age of 18 when they were removed
- Passed away on or after the scheme was announced on 27 May 2025.

If you're not sure if your experience meets the criteria, you can still contact the scheme or a support service.

Applications close: 31 December 2028

Learn more

Website: www.wa.gov.au

Email: WASG@dpc.wa.gov.au

Phone: 08 6552 5000

Victorian Stolen Generations Reparations Package

About the scheme

The Victorian Stolen Generations Reparations Package is for survivors who were removed from their families and communities as children in Victoria. It has been set up to help address the trauma and suffering caused by the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, community, culture, identity, and language.

The package provides eligible applicants access to:

- A payment of \$100,000
- A personal apology
- Access to trauma-informed counselling and other support services
- Access to some records held by the State about their removal
- Access to healing programs.

Who is eligible?

The Stolen Generations Reparations Package is available to those removed as a child by a government or non-government agency in Victoria before 31 December 1976. The person must have been separated long enough to experience a loss of family, community, culture, identity, and language.

If you're not sure if your experience meets the criteria, you can still contact the scheme or a support service.

Applications close: 31 March 2027

Learn more

Website: www.vic.gov.au

Email: stolen.generations@justice.vic.gov.au

Phone: 1800 566 071 (from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

Support Services: www.vic.gov.au



Additional Victorian Scheme

Victoria Historical Forced Adoption Redress Scheme

About the scheme

The Victorian Government established the Historical Forced Adoption Redress Scheme to acknowledge the impact of historical practices of forced adoption on mothers, acknowledging the serious, complex, and ongoing impacts of forced separation.

The scheme provides eligible applicants access to:

- A payment of up to \$30,000
- A Personal Apology from the Victorian Government
- Access to counselling and psychological support services.

Who is eligible?

The scheme is open to mothers who:

- Gave birth in Victoria before 1990 and was separated from your baby soon after birth
- Are Victorian residents who gave birth interstate before 1990 and were separated from their baby soon after birth.

If you're not sure if your experience meets the criteria, you can still contact the scheme or a support service.

Applications close: 31 January 2028

Learn more

Website: www.vic.gov.au

Email: forcedadoptions.redress@justice.vic.gov.au

Call: 1300 217 425 (Monday to Friday between 9 am and 4:30 pm excluding public holidays)

National Redress Scheme

About the scheme

The National Redress Scheme is for Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander peoples who experienced sexual abuse as a child while they were in an institution. The scheme acknowledges that many children were sexually abused in Australian institutions and that they suffered harm because of that abuse.

Institutions are places where children lived or spent time, such as dormitories, missions, orphanages, schools, churches, children's homes, sports clubs, hospitals, youth detention centres, and care facilities.

The scheme provides eligible applicants access to:

- A payment of up to \$150,000
- Counselling that is confidential and culturally safe
- The option of a direct personal response from the institution (an apology).

Who is eligible?

You may be eligible for redress through the National Redress Scheme if:

- You experienced sexual abuse while you were under 18 years of age
- The abuse happened before 1 July 2018 and while you were in the care of an institution
- You were born before 30 June 2010
- You are an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

If you're not sure if your experience meets the criteria, you can still contact the scheme or a support service.

Applications close: 30 June 2027

Learn more

Website: www.nationalredress.gov.au

Phone: 1800 737 377

Support services: www.nationalredress.gov.au

Support Services: www.wa.gov.au

Knowmore: knowmore.org.au

Knowmore Information

Free. Confidential. Australia-wide.

Knowmore provides free legal help to people who experienced child sexual abuse. The service offers support with the National Redress Scheme, the Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme, the WA Redress Scheme, and other legal issues. Knowmore is independent from government and will keep your information private and confidential.

Culturally Safe Support

You can speak with an Aboriginal Engagement Advisor—male or female—based in: Adelaide, Darwin, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, and Perth. Or, if you prefer, you can talk to a non-Indigenous support worker. The choice is yours.

Knowmore Team includes

- Lawyers
- Counsellors
- Financial Counsellors
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Support Workers.

Learn more

Website: knowmore.org.au

Phone: 1800 605 762



HealingFoundation

Supporting Stolen Generations
survivors and organisations

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