

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION

When may I be eligible for Criminal Injuries Compensation?

You may be eligible for Criminal Injuries Compensation if:

- You were injured in an act of violence in Scotland, England or Wales, even if the individual responsible has not been convicted of, or even charged with that crime; and
- You have been injured seriously enough to qualify for the minimum award (£1,000); and
- You have made your application within two years of the incident that caused your injury.

However, your application may be accepted outside this time limit if you were under 18 at the time of the incident or it wasn't reasonable for an application form to have been submitted within two years of the incident.

But you may NOT be eligible if:

- You were injured before 1 August 1964; or
- You have already applied for compensation for the same injury; or
- The injury happened before 1 October 1979 and you and the person who injured you were living together at the time as members of the same family in the same household; or
- The injury and the act of violence took place outside England, Scotland or Wales.

How do I apply for Criminal Injuries Compensation?

You apply to the Criminal Injuries Authority (CICA). There is an application form to complete. Although you can obtain and complete the form yourself, you may wish to take legal advice about the process. We can complete and submit the form for you, and advise you about any offer of compensation made to you.

What compensation might I get?

You can apply for several types of compensation – for an injury to yourself as a result of a violent crime; for the death of a close relative as a result of a violent crime; for loss of earnings (if you lose earnings for more than 6 months); and for some types of other expenses. You should ask for our advice about what type of compensation to apply for.

Are there any other things to consider?

Yes. In deciding on compensation, the CICA will look at all the circumstances of the incident and your own circumstances. This includes whether or not you have any criminal convictions, whether or not the incident was reported promptly to the police, whether you co-operated with the police and whether you were under the influence of drink or drugs at the time of the incident. If any of these apply to you, you should certainly get legal advice from us before you make an application.

What if I was injured in another country?

You still may be able to get compensation. You should ask us or visit the website of the CICA at <http://www.cica.gov.uk/Can-I-Apply/Injured-in-other-countries/>