

National Redress Scheme

Fact sheet for South Australia

What is the National Redress Scheme?

The National Redress Scheme (the Scheme) provides acknowledgement and support to people who experienced institutional child sexual abuse.

The recent Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse listened to thousands of people about the abuse they experienced as children.

The Royal Commission recommended that redress be made. In response, the Australian Government set up the National Redress Scheme. All state and territory governments, including South Australia, have committed to the Scheme.

Redress is support that acknowledges the harm done to people as children. It holds institutions accountable.

You can apply to the Scheme if you:

- experienced institutional child sexual abuse before 1 July 2018, and
- were born before 30 June 2010, and
- are an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

What does it offer for South Australians?

The Government of South Australia has committed to providing redress if your abuse occurred in a state-run institution, such as an out of home care facility, state school or hospital.

If you were abused in a non-government institution, such as a church, large sporting or community groups, you may also apply.

For you to access redress, the institution responsible for the abuse must have joined the Scheme. So far in South Australia, a wide range of institutions and organisations have joined the scheme. The updated list is available on [National Redress Scheme website](#)

Some circumstances can affect applications. Please seek further information if you: are under 18, have been sentenced to jail for 5 or more years, are currently in jail, experienced abuse involving an institution that hasn't joined the Scheme, have received previous payments related to the abuse or would like to pursue a civil court case.

What if I have already told my story to the Mullighan inquiry or sought an ex-gratia payment?

The ex-gratia Children in State Care Scheme has been operating since 2010. If you have received or sought an ex-gratia payment you can still apply to the Scheme for redress.

You may also want to consider the Scheme as a simpler and streamlined alternative to pursuing compensation through the courts.

What can I apply for?

The Scheme provides access to:

- counselling
- a payment
- the option of a personal response from the institution (such as an apology).

If you receive an offer of redress, you can accept any or all of these things. This is your choice.

How do I apply?

The Scheme started on 1 July 2018. It will run for 10 years. You can make an application at any time between now and 30 June 2027.

You can apply by filling out a paper or online application. You do not have to tell your story in person.

The Scheme will work as quickly as possible to process applications. This may take between 3 and 12 months. People can take as much time as they need to complete their application and they will have up to 6 months to consider an offer of redress.

How can I get support and more information?

Free, confidential support services are available before, during and after the application process. In South Australia, dedicated Redress Support Services are available to provide free advice and help complete an application.

[Nunkuwarrin Yunti of SA Inc](#) 08 8406 1600

[Relationships Australia SA](#) 1800 182 325
1300 364 277

[Victim Support Service Incorporated](#) 1800 842 846

To connect with a support service that best suits you and find out how to apply, please go to www.nationalredress.gov.au or call the National Redress Scheme on 1800 737 377.

For immediate assistance, contact:

Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636

Lifeline 13 11 14

1800 Respect 1800 737 732

Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

Mensline 1300 78 99 78

In an emergency call Triple Zero 000

