



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

Empowering Survivors: A Guide to Comprehensive Benefits and Resources for Sexual Assault Victims

January 21, 2025

Crime Victim Services Mission Statement

To assist in the compassionate and effective delivery of crime victim services by offering information, resources, and financial assistance to crime victims and the organizations assisting them.

Who is responsible for the sexual assault exam cost ?

- Victims of sexual assault may receive assistance from the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to help with the cost of the forensic exam and other services.
- The OAG reimburses providers the cost of the forensic exam per Tex. Code of Crim. Proc. art. 56A.303.
- The OAG may pay for the cost of medical care provided during the forensic exam through a Crime Victims' Compensation (CVC) or Emergency Medical Care (EMC) application.
- Collateral resources must be utilized for costs of medical care unless an exception is granted.*

*Exceptions include when the forensic exam is conducted by a sexual assault nurse examiner or sexual assault examiner employed by or under contract with a SAFE program.

Post Exam – Application Types

- The OAG has two application types for victims of sexual assault:
 - EMC covers the costs of medical care provided during the sexual assault exam.
 - CVC includes coverage for medical treatment, follow-up care, and additional non-medical services.

Choosing the Application Path

Questions to help determine the best application path:

- Has the victim missed time off work due to the assault?
- Is the victim seeking counseling?
- Is the victim seeking relocation due to the assault?
- Does the victim need follow-up care?
- Was the crime reported to a law enforcement agency?

CVC Application

- If the answer is “YES” to any of these questions, then the CVC application should be used.
- We strongly encourage victims to complete the online application but also have the option to complete the paper application.

CVC Eligibility Requirements

- Crime must have occurred in Texas or to a Texas resident in a state or country without a CVC program.
- Crime must have been reported to law enforcement.
- For crimes on or after 9/1/23, undergoing a forensic exam is considered cooperation:
 - “...a victim receiving a forensic medical examination constitutes sufficient evidence that a victim has substantially cooperated with an investigation of a sexual assault or other sex offense.” Tex. Code of Crim. Proc. art. 56B.107(d).

Online CVC application

Benefits of the online application:

- CVC claim number will be provided once the application is submitted.
- Ability to upload medical bills and correspondence.
- Receipt of status updates and email notifications.

Portal Web Address: <https://cvs.texasattorneygeneral.gov/portal/login>

Denied Applications

- Victims are encouraged to appeal any denied CVC applications. Appeals must be submitted within 30 days.
- If a CVC application has been denied, the victim may still be eligible for EMC compensation.

EMC Application

- Victims who do NOT report the crime may want to use this application.
- Although the EMC application has limited coverage, it will help cover the financial burdens victims may encounter from the medical costs incurred during the forensic exam.

EMC Covered Costs

- Medical care at the time of the exam
- Medications prescribed at the time of the exam
- EMS transport

EMC Application

- Victims can complete the EMC online application or paper application.
- On the paper application, only sections 1, 2, 4, 17 and Acknowledgement and Authorization need to be completed.
- For exams on September 1, 2023, or later, collateral resources must be utilized, unless an exception is granted.*
- \$25,000 overall claim limit

*Exceptions include when the forensic exam is conducted by a sexual assault nurse examiner or sexual assault examiner employed by or under contract with a SAFE program.

OAG Application Types

	SA Application	EMC Application	CVC Application
Claim Limit	\$1,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
Crime must be reported to Law Enforcement			✓
Pays for the forensic exam	✓		
Covers medical care		✓	✓
Covers follow-up visits after the initial medical			✓
Pays for prescription cost		✓	✓
Pays for X-Rays		✓	✓
Pays for EMS transports		✓	✓
Requires use of insurance		✓*	✓
Requires use of Medicaid/Medicare		✓	✓
Victim has to submit the app		✓	✓
Submitted via portal	✓	✓	✓
Submitted via mail		✓	✓

What if the victim needs additional benefits?

Victims have the option to complete a CVC application after an EMC application is submitted.

- If the EMC application was submitted via the portal, the victim should choose the transfer claim option to submit a CVC Application.
- If the EMC application was submitted via mail, please give us a call at (800) 983-9933 to transfer the claim.

CVC CONTACT INFO

Office of the Attorney General
Crime Victim Services Division

CVC Program
P.O. Box 12198
Austin, TX 78711-2198
www.texasattorneygeneral.gov

Dwanna Allen (512) 936-2953 or Mary Ortuno (512) 936-2964

Portal Web Address:
<https://cvs.texasattorneygeneral.gov/portal/login>