

## Loss of Support Policy

It is the intention of the Victims Compensation Program to provide limited financial loss of support for a victim and/or their dependents when a suspect is incarcerated or has been removed from the home due to a crime against a household member [as defined by Vermont Statute Title 15, Chapter 21 § 1101(2)] or minor child. In order for a victim to make an informed decision, the Compensation Program will provide information about the Department of Children and Families Economic Services Division and suggest that the victim apply for services.

Loss of support will be considered on a case by case basis. The victim and/or their minor children must be dependent on the suspect's income to maintain household expenses.

The Victims Compensation Program will calculate the loss of support at 66.66% of the suspect's gross monthly income at the time of the crime. The Victims Compensation Program will consider any **new** household income received by the victim, household member, or benefits received on behalf of their children as a collateral resource. The additional amount received will be deducted from the suspect's adjusted gross income (66.66% of gross). Collateral resources may include, but are not limited to Reach-Up benefits, food stamps, general assistance, child support, and disability income.

Proof of the suspect's income must be provided to the Program in the form of pay stubs, tax returns, or other documentation as requested by the Program.

The Board may deny an award for loss of support when it is determined that the suspect failed to report their wages to State and Federal revenue departments as required by law. No compensation will be provided for unreported wages.

The Victims Compensation Program will reimburse loss of support not to exceed a maximum net reimbursement of \$500.00 per week for up to 12 weeks dependent on verification.

Approved 12/3/12 (for 6 months); Amended 6/17/13 (sunset removed)

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