



Australian Government

National Redress Scheme

For people who have experienced
institutional child sexual abuse

Get support from a nominee

Easy Read version



A warning about this guide



We talk about **child sexual abuse** in this guide.



Child sexual abuse includes when someone:

- makes a child do sexual things
- does sexual things to a child.



You can talk to someone you trust if you:

- need support to read this guide
- do not feel comfortable to read this guide
- want more information.



We have a list of organisations you can use if you need extra support.

You can find these organisations on page [21](#).

How to use this guide



We are the Australian Government.

We wrote this guide.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

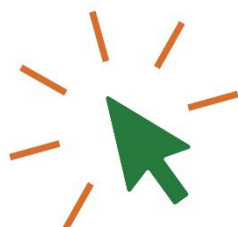
We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page [25](#).



This is an Easy Read summary of a webpage.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other page on our website.

www.nationalredress.gov.au/apply/how-apply/nominees

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What is the National Redress Scheme?



The National Redress Scheme offers **redress** to people who experienced child sexual abuse when they were in an **institution**.

We call it the Scheme.



Redress is when someone gets support or money to try and make up for an experience that harmed them.



An institution is a group or organisation that supports the community.

What is an institution?

An institution can be:



- a children's home



- a school



- a church



- an **orphanage**.

An orphanage is a home for children who do not have a family.

An institution can also include:



- a sports club



- a hospital



- **foster care.**

Foster care is when children live with other people for a short time because they can't live with their parents.

What is a nominee?



A **nominee** is someone you choose to:

- make decisions for you
- do things for you that you cannot do on your own.



A nominee can help you apply for redress.

Your nominee should be someone who:



- you can talk to about your experience



- you trust



- respects your privacy



- listens to what you want



- makes the best decisions for you.

How can your nominee support you?



Your nominee can support you to apply to the Scheme.

For example, they might:



- ask questions about how your application is going



- answer questions you have about your application



- share more information about you with the Scheme.



There are 2 types of nominees.

We explain both of these on the following pages.

Assistance nominee



An **assistance nominee** can support you to apply to the Scheme.



But they cannot make some decisions for you.



An assistance nominee cannot apply to the Scheme for you.

An assistance nominee also cannot:



- accept your redress offer



- **decline** your redress offer



- sign documents for you.



When you decline an offer, you say that it is not what you want.

Your assistance nominee can be a:



- family member, like a parent



- partner, like a boyfriend or girlfriend



- friend



- support service.

Legal nominee



A **legal nominee** can make certain legal decisions about the Scheme for you.

A legal nominee can:



- apply to the Scheme for you



- cancel your application to the Scheme



- sign documents for you.

A legal nominee can also:



- accept your redress offer



- decline your redress offer



- agree for someone to **review** your redress offer.



When you review a decision, you check to see if it:

- is right
- needs to change.



Your legal nominee does not have to be a **lawyer**.

A lawyer is someone who:

- understands the law
- helps other people understand the law.

Your legal nominee can be a:



- family member, like a parent



- partner, like a boyfriend or girlfriend.



Your legal nominee can also be a **Public Trustee**.



A Public Trustee is a person who takes care of money for someone when they cannot take care of it themselves.

How can you ask for a nominee?



You can ask for a nominee by filling out the Redress Nominee Form.

This is not an Easy Read form.

www.nationalredress.gov.au/apply/application-pack#forms-to-appoint-a-nominee



You and your nominee need to fill out this form together.



If you want a legal nominee, you will need to include some extra documents.



These documents must show the person can be a legal nominee under the law.

How can you change your nominee?



You can change your assistance nominee by filling out a new Redress Nominee Form.



You need to tell us if you do not want your assistance nominee anymore.



You can tell us:

- on the phone
- in a letter.

We can only change your legal nominee if:



- they tell us in writing that they are not your legal nominee anymore



- a new person is in charge of your legal decisions.

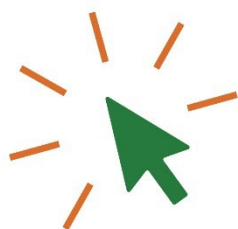
More information about the Scheme



You can find out more about the Scheme in our Easy Read guides.



This includes information about who can apply to the Scheme.



www.nationalredress.gov.au/help-support/resources/easy-read-guides

Free support services

Redress Support Services

Redress Support Services can:



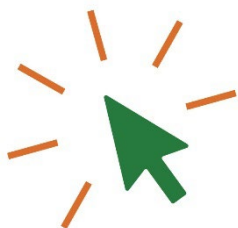
- help you understand the Scheme



- support you when you apply



- talk to you about your experience.



You can find out more on our website.

www.nationalredress.gov.au/RSS

Knowmore



Knowmore can help you decide if you want to apply to the Scheme.



Knowmore can also help you find other supports to help you apply to the Scheme.



Knowmore is a free service.

Knowmore can also help you understand:



- how to manage your money



- the law



- the rules you need to follow if you accept a redress payment



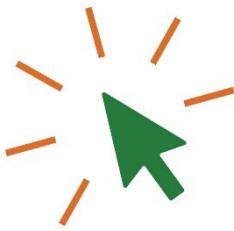
- how your redress payment will affect other payments you receive.

For example, Centrelink payments.



You can call Knowmore.

1800 605 762



You can also find out more on their website.

knowmore.org.au

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this guide mean.



Assistance nominee

An assistance nominee can support you to apply to the Scheme.

But they cannot make some decisions for you.



Child sexual abuse

Child sexual abuse includes when someone:

- makes a child do sexual things
- does sexual things to a child.



Decline

When you decline an offer, you say that it is not what you want.



Foster care

Foster care is when children live with other people for a short time because they can't live with their parents.



Institution

An institution is a group or organisation that supports the community.



Lawyer

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Legal nominee

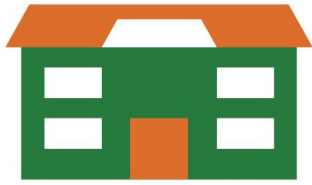
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Nominee

A nominee is someone you choose to:

- make decisions for you
- do things for you that you cannot do on your own.



Orphanage

An orphanage is a home for children who do not have a family.



Public Trustee

A Public Trustee is a person who takes care of money for someone when they cannot take care of it themselves.



Redress

Redress is when someone gets support or money to try and make up for an experience that harmed them.



Review

When you review a decision, you check to see if it:

- is right
- needs to change.

Contact us



You can call us.

1800 737 377



You can send us an email.

enquiries@dss.gov.au



You can ask a question by filling out a form on our website.

www.dss.gov.au/contact-us/enquiries-and-feedback/feedback-form

You can write to us.

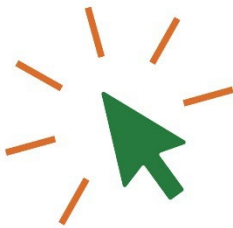


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Australia



You can visit our website.

www.nationalredress.gov.au



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