

Stolen Generations Reparations Package

Application stages



STAGE 1

NEW

- » You can submit your application by post, email or online.
- » We will contact you within 2 weeks to acknowledge that we received it.
- » Supports are available to complete the application or to access services, such as trauma-informed counselling. Please contact us on 1800 566 071 for information about the supports available to you.

COMPLETENESS

- » The **Completeness** stage takes up to 2 weeks.
- » We check that you have signed the application form and included all the required identity documents.
- » If we find that there are some documents missing, we will contact you or your nominated support person.
- » If we have requested further information or documents, we need to hear back from you as soon as possible so we can continue with your application. This may take more than the 2 weeks mentioned above.

STAGES



STAGE 2

ELIGIBILITY

- » The **Eligibility** stage can take up to 8 weeks.
- » Your application is being assessed to see if it is ready to go to the Independent Assessment Panel. Some people's applications are ready. Many people's applications need further information.
- » If you applied for the Advance Payment because you are very unwell, then this is being assessed now.
- » If your application is outside the scope of the package (e.g., you were first removed outside Victoria or after 31 Dec 1976), we will tell you at this stage and explain why. If you have information that supports your application, you can contact us and we will consider it.

RESEARCH

- » The **Research** stage takes 4 to 13 weeks.
- » If we need to do more research to support your application and you have given consent to search the public records, then we will do that.
- » We only send applications to approved Government agencies to do this. The Government agencies then send information back to us (the department).
- » We assess it and decide if we have all we need to progress.
- » If you have not provided consent for us to search the public records or the public records have limited information, the department may contact you for more information. This could take more than the 13 weeks mentioned above.

STAGES



STAGE 3

READY FOR THE INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT PANEL

- » If your application is **Ready for the Independent Assessment Panel (IAP)**, it has been assessed and the department prepares a Summary of Information for the IAP.
 - » The summary of information shows how your application meets the requirements for the package.
 - » We can take up to 3 weeks to assess all the information and write it up.
 - » The Panel meets monthly. Your application will be heard at the next monthly meeting.
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DECISION

- » The **Decision** stage can take up to 4 weeks.
- » The Independent Assessment Panel (IAP) assesses your application.
- » You will be contacted soon after the IAP meeting to tell you the outcome.
- » The IAP may request more information from you before making a decision.
- » If more research or information is needed and you have given consent to search the public records, then we may do that. This may take more than the 4 weeks mentioned above.

STAGES

1



2



3



4

What if I am found eligible?

Receiving your Reparations Package

STAGE

4

FINANCIAL REPARATIONS

- » Allow 4 weeks from the date the Panel finds you eligible for the package to receive your financial reparations in your nominated bank account.
- » **Please note:** Financial reparations may be received up to eight weeks after your Panel decision if you provided incomplete or incorrect bank details, or you change your bank details after you receive your outcome or there are delays with your bank.

RESTORATIVE REPARATIONS

- » The restorative reparations options are:
 - a personal apology from the Victorian Government
 - supported access to healing programs such as family reunions, reconnection to Country and language programs
 - an opportunity to record and share your story and experience
 - receive your removal records.
- » Restorative programs will be made available to eligible applicants from 2023.

What if I am found ineligible?

STAGE

4

REVIEW

- » If you are found to be ineligible, we will explain why.
- » You can request a review of your outcome. You may provide new information with your request.
- » Supports are available to complete your request.
- » We will reassess the eligibility of your application and send the application to a Review Panel to make a new decision about whether your application is eligible for the package.
- » The review will consider all the information provided by you and found in a search of the public records (with your consent).
- » The Review Panel may keep the original outcome or make a different decision. This means you may be found ineligible or eligible for the package.
- » You should allow 14 weeks for the review to be completed.
- » **Please note:** If more research is required or the Review Panel seeks more information, this will delay the outcome of the review. This means it may take more than 14 weeks.

STAGES

