



Human Trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery. Victims of Human Trafficking are subjected to force, fraud or coercion, for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor. Victims are young children, teenagers, men and women.

**An estimated 12.3 million** children and adults are trafficked worldwide each year, according to a report by the U.S. Department of State. **Approximately 14,500 – 17,500** are thought to be trafficked across the American border every year and unfortunately, many of the cases occur here in California. The California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP) is available to assist eligible victims of Human Trafficking.

## What is the California Victim Compensation Program?

CalVCP may reimburse victims for expenses that result from qualifying violent crimes, including Human Trafficking. Victims of crime who have been injured or have been threatened with injury may be eligible for assistance from CalVCP.

CalVCP can help victims of Human Trafficking for crimes that occur in California as well as California residents who become victims while visiting other states or countries.

Additionally, individuals who suffer a monetary loss because of death of, or injury to a crime victim, may also be eligible for compensation. These “derivative victims” can include:

- Spouses or Domestic Partners
- Children
- Parents
- Legal Guardians
- Brothers
- Sisters
- Grandparents
- Grandchildren

## What Expenses Can CalVCP Cover?

CalVCP may help pay for expenses related to Human Trafficking. Qualification for one or more of these expenses must be verified and meet CalVCP criteria before payment can be made:

- Medical and Dental Treatments
- Mental Health Services
- Income Loss
- Funeral and Burial Expenses
- Childcare services when a caregiver is killed or disabled
- Home or Vehicle Modifications
- Home Security
- Relocation
- Crime Scene Cleanup
- Loss of Support for dependents when a victim is killed or disabled

## How Does a Victim Apply for Compensation?

Victims of Human Trafficking can apply for CalVCP assistance in four ways:

- Contact a local county Victim Witness Assistance Center. A victim advocate at the center can help victims complete and submit an application, as well as provide other assistance. Most victim witness centers are part of the county District Attorney’s office.

A list of California Victim Witness Assistance Centers can be found at <http://www.vcgcb.ca.gov/victims/localhelp.aspx>

- Call the CalVCP Help Line at 800.777.9229
- Download an application at [www.calvcp.ca.gov](http://www.calvcp.ca.gov)
- E-mail CalVCP at [info@vcgcb.ca.gov](mailto:info@vcgcb.ca.gov)

When submitting a completed application, include one or more of the following forms of documentation if you have it available:

- Crime report
- A Law Enforcement Agency Endorsement (LEAF) issued pursuant to Section 236.2 of the Penal Code
- An affidavit from a Human Trafficking caseworker

In addition, the following documentation may also be submitted if you have it available:

- Certification or eligibility letter from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement
- Documentation verifying prosecution of the offender(s)
- Medical records documenting injuries consistent with Human Trafficking
- Mental health records

## Additional Resources

### **Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition (BSCC)**

The BSCC is an alliance of over 60 government and nonprofit agencies in the United States and Latin America that is convened in and along the U.S.-Mexico Border Region to combat slavery and human trafficking. BSCC's purpose is to bilaterally prevent and intervene in the commercial and sexual exploitation of men, women and children, while advocating for all exploited persons. BSCC administers a variety of projects and services for victims, law enforcement, and the community. The BSCC trafficking hotline provides bilingual assistance and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to assist victims, service providers and law enforcement. (619) 666-2757; <http://www.bsccoalition.org>

### **National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC)**

The NHTRC is a nonprofit organization funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It provides a national, 24-hour, toll-free hotline number. Interpreters are available. This hotline will help victims obtain vital resources, materials and services to safely rebuild their lives. 1-888-373-7888; <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/hotline/index.html>

### **U.S. Department of Justice**

You can report trafficking crimes or obtain help by calling the Trafficking in Persons and Worker Exploitation Task Force (TPWETF) Complaint Line. New laws provide options for trafficking victims regardless of immigration status. Interpreters are available. Call 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. E.S.T. 1-888-428-7581 (voice and TTY); <http://www.justice.gov/crt/crim/tpwETF.php>