

CVSU FACT SHEET - Examinations

What is an Examination?

An Examination is a medical assessment of an injury (or injuries) by a medical specialist, psychologist or psychiatrist. An Examination will only be requested by an assessor under the Victims of Crime Assistance Act if there is evidence of a physical or psychological/psychiatric injury as a direct result of a violent offence.

When is an Examination necessary?

An assessor may require you to have an Examination in order to ascertain the type, cause, extent, prognosis and treatment of your injury and, where your injury is ongoing, to ascertain whether there are multiple causes, or you have a pre-existing condition.

Can I get medical treatment at an Examination?

No – an Examination is to assess a victim's injuries and is not for the purpose of medical treatment. If you need medical treatment, you should talk to your Doctor or Health Clinic.

How much will an Examination cost me?

The CVSU will pay for the Examination as well as the cost of any travel and accommodation necessary for you to attend the Examination.

How long will an Examination take?

An Examination with a medical practitioner, psychologist or psychiatrist can take up to 2 hours.

Cancellations or No Shows

Failure to give 7 business days' notice of the cancellation of an Examination may result in the deduction of the examiner's fee from any award. Ongoing failure to attend Examination appointments may also result in your claim being rejected or assessed without the benefit of an Examination.

Child applicants

Children who are attending for Examination must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

What if I need an interpreter at the Examination?

If you need an interpreter at the Examination, please let the CVSU or your lawyer know immediately. Please also let the CVSU or your lawyer know what language you need interpreted. The CVSU can then organise and pay for an interpreter to be available at your Examination. Interpreters need to be independent. You can't use a close family member as an interpreter.

What if I need a support person to come with me to the Examination?

If you need a support person to come with you to the Examination, please advise the CVSU or your lawyer straight away. The CVSU can pay for a support person to go with you to the Examination if the support person is needed for you to attend the Examination. Applications for CVSU to fund applicants' support persons are assessed by the Director on a case by case basis.

Will my Examination report remain confidential?

Yes – the report will only be provided to the CVSU and the Assessor.

What if I have questions?

Call us on Free Call 1800 460 363 or (08) 8924 4080.