

Brokerage supports

Below is a table that compares brokerage funds available to eligible victim-survivors. All included information is taken from published guidance, to which links have been added and practitioners can follow for more in-depth detail. Practitioners are encouraged to check information is correct at the time of service delivery.

	Family Violence Crisis Brokerage (FVCB)	Flexible Support Packages (FSP)	Personal Safety Initiative (PSI)	The Orange Door Brokerage	Victims of Crime financial assistance (VOCAT)	Private Rental Assistance Program (PRAP)	Disability Family Violence Crisis Response Initiative (DFVCRI)	RentAssist Bond Loan	Family & Early Parenting Services Flexible Funding
Purpose	<p>Providing support during a crisis and in response to COVID-19.</p> <p>Can spend on perpetrators to reduce the risk to or enhance the safety of victim survivors and/or their children.</p>	<p>To deliver a personalised and holistic response to victim-survivors experiencing family violence.</p>	<p>To enable victim-survivors to remain safely in their homes (using FSP funding).</p> <p>PSI is a non-crisis response.</p>	<p>Respond to individuals and families at risk of or experiencing or who have experienced FV (including children) & children & families who access services via hubs to support their children's care, development & wellbeing. Used to improve the safety of victim survivors - can include use by perpetrators.</p>	<p>Assist victims to recover from a crime by providing financial assistance for expenses incurred, or reasonably likely to be incurred, as a direct result of the crime.</p>	<p>Prevent or end homelessness & housing crisis by: Rapidly rehousing people capable of sustaining private rental after initial support; Supporting at risk households to sustain affordable & appropriate housing in the private rental market; Assisting people who currently live in crisis, transitional or social housing to become independent in the private rental market.</p>	<p>Assist women with a disability (& children with a disability escaping FV with their mother) experiencing FV who may require immediate disability support to access a FV crisis accommodation response while exploring longer term housing & support options or require immediate disability support to remain safe in the home or community.</p> <p>Where costs are related specifically to FV they will be met by the FV sector. If costs are specific to disability support requirements during Family Violence crisis they will be considered under DFVCRI. Secondary consultation is also available through the initiative.</p>	<p>Assist households who are seeking accommodation in the private rental market and require financial assistance to meet the cost of a bond; one of the major upfront costs of renting in the private rental market.</p>	<p>Enable families to make positive and enduring change that will promote the safety and wellbeing of their children and young people.</p>
Eligibility	<p>Individuals or families (including children) who have recently experienced and/or been affected by family violence; & receiving support</p>	<p>Victim/survivors who have a case management plan or safety/support plan and: are escaping; and/or</p>	<p>Victim-survivors with comprehensive risk & needs assessment, receiving case management support from a</p>	<p>Hubs brokerage is available to clients accessing hub organisations which are defined as any services funded by the state to provide hub services.</p>	<p>A person may apply for financial assistance if: a violent crime was committed against them & they have suffered an injury; the crime occurred in Victoria; they are a</p>	<p>To be eligible for PRAP, households must be either financially disadvantaged or victims of family violence. Households who are victims of family violence are</p>	<p>The initiative can be accessed by: Women and children with a disability recognised under the Disability Act 2006; Women with mental health, chronic health or ageing condition or have a temporary injury</p>	<p>Permanent resident of Australia; meet the RentAssist bond loan income and asset eligibility limits; not own or part-own a residential property (see exemptions for</p>	<p>Flexible Funding is available to children and families receiving support through family services.</p>

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTORIA

	from a specialist family violence service; & are experiencing a financial crisis.	have recently experienced family violence; and/or are planning to leave an abusive situation or have the perpetrator removed from the home with appropriate legal sanctions in place.	SFVS/related agency, meet eligibility criteria for FSP & have/are applying for a FVIO with exclusion conditions, given informed consent		primary, secondary or related victim of that violent crime as defined by the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 1996, or a person who has incurred funeral expenses as a direct result of the death of a primary victim. An application must be made within 2 years after the occurrence of the act of violence.	eligible for PRAP regardless of their financial circumstances.	or disability resulting from family violence that require specific disability-related support or equipment to either access FV crisis accommodation or remain safely in her home or community	FV); the rent for the property being leased should not be more than 55 per cent of the household's total income; proof of identity, residency status, income and other documents have been provided.	
Amounts	\$5,000 per person per support period (avg. \$500)	\$10,000 per individual per support period (avg. \$3,000)	\$10,000 per individual per support period (avg. \$3,000)	\$5,000 per package	Primary victims are eligible for \$60,000	\$7,000 (avg. \$2,745 metropolitan and \$2,000 regional areas)	Short-term funds can be provided for up to 12 weeks to a maximum of \$9,000 per person.	\$2,100. Determined by size of the property, no. of bedrooms & no. of people living in the property.	Not listed
Included	alternative housing & accommodation; household related expenses; basic material needs; transportation; health and wellbeing; child development & safety items; culture & identity; basic safety & security responses (outside PSI & VOCAT support); Perpetrator spend to reduce the risk to, or enhance the safety of victim	Basic material needs; physical & mental health; suitable & stable housing; learning & education; financial security & independence; culture & identity; technological safety support – (via PSI)	Coordination of personal safety, security & technology responses; A safety & security audit; An FSP to fund personal safety, security and technology responses; Access to property modifications & personal safety technology (including	Housing & accommodation; home security (see PSI first); health & wellbeing supports; child development & safety requirements, independence support; material aid; financial planning; legal advice (excluding perpetrators).	The types of assistance available are set out in the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 1996 and include assistance for counselling and medical expenses, safety related expenses, loss or damage to clothing, loss of earnings, loss of money expected from the deceased (related victims only) and assistance for funeral expenses. Interim awards can be provided for urgent expenses	Flexible fund designed to be tailored to the needs of the household: Rent in advance or in arrears; Rental subsidies; costs associated with: loss of rent damage costs not covered under insurance or bond, accessing private rental, establishing a new tenancy, landlord incentives, plus other discretionary use	Attendant care support for disability related needs; Hire of equipment (where own equipment cannot be accessed) or linkage with the State-wide Equipment Program where appropriate; Sign/Auslan interpreting in cases where the DHHS Interpreter service is not available through the credit line; Transport costs related to disability	Bond for rental tenancies only. If the landlord keeps any bond due to property damage, the applicant is required to repay the debt to the Residential Tenancies Bond Authority. Exemptions to repayment include Family Violence.	The use of flexible funding must be focussed on outcomes and clearly link to the implementation and achievement of goals in the Child and Family Action Plan. See Program Requirements for examples of how spending might be used.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTORIA

	survivors and/or their children		personal safety devices and CCTV) which meets Minimum Technology Standards						
Excluded	illegal activity; gambling or alcohol; other free or low-cost services readily available within the community; to replace or duplicate supports available through other funding sources, including other Local, State & Commonwealth Government programs where these can be accessed in a timely manner; cash payments.	Victim-survivors who wish to continue their domestic living arrangements with the perpetrator of the abuse. Illegal activity; gambling; products or services not identified in the case or support plan; to replace or duplicate supports that are available through other funding sources, including other Local, State & Commonwealth Government programs.	See FSP exclusions	illegal activity; gambling or alcohol; other free or low-cost services readily available within the community; to replace or duplicate supports available through other funding sources, including other Local, State & Commonwealth Government programs; cash payments.	None listed	Short term or emergency accommodation of any type; Products or services that have not been identified in the client plan; Staff related activities; Support services that are already available to the household through other funding sources; Anything illegal	The Initiative does not provide case management support. However, secondary consultation and administrative support to access the fund can be provided.	None listed	Illegal activity; gambling; products or services not identified in Family Action Plans, emergency material aid; free or low-cost services readily available within the community; to replace or duplicate supports available through other funding sources; repayment of personal debts; uses not directly related to Family Services; costs related to staff forums or events.
Access	Via SFVS that provide case management, as well as SafeSteps.	Via 22 providers in Victoria	Via PSI coordinators located in local SFVSs	Via Orange Door Hubs	Can apply online or any Magistrate's Court in Victoria	Local Government area support services	Via SafeSteps. Call 1800 015 188. Services can also consult with Disability Liaison Officers Mon to Friday in business hours - disability@safesteps.org.au	Online or at any local housing office.	Available to children & families receiving support through family services.

Document last updated 20.5.2020

Additional supports:

Fines Victoria – Family Violence Scheme: “The scheme allows people to apply to Fines Victoria to have their infringement fines withdrawn if family violence substantially contributed to the offence or it is not safe for them to name the responsible person.” Exclusions apply.