



Crime Victim Assistance Program Summary of Benefits Available to Witnesses

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) helps victims, immediate family members of victims, and witnesses affected by violent crime. Benefits provided by CVAP offset financial loss and assist in recovery from injuries. **This summary focuses on benefits available to witnesses.**

In this context, “witness” means a person who is psychologically harmed from witnessing a life-threatening or fatal crime against someone with whom they have a strong emotional attachment.

Benefit:	For:	Examples:
Counselling services or expenses	Witnesses who need counselling to recover from the psychological injury caused by witnessing the crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• counselling sessions
Prescription drug expenses	Witnesses who need prescription drugs to recover from the psychological injury caused by witnessing the crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• medications prescribed by a doctor
Transportation and related expenses, and transportation-related childcare	Witnesses who have to travel some distance to obtain counselling services provided as crime victim assistance benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• transportation expenses such as bus fare, air fare, or mileage expenses• meals and accommodation• childcare while attending appointments
Crime scene cleaning	Witnesses who need specialized cleaning of their home or vehicle because the crime was committed there	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• specialized cleaning and disinfecting of contaminated areas• replacement of contaminated flooring, wall covering, or other built-in features