



## COVA Emergency Fund Parameters

### Program Overview:

The mission of COVA's Emergency Fund (EF) Program is to help ease the financial hardships faced by crime victims as a direct result of a crime, particularly when those needs cannot be covered by crime victim compensation or other available financial resources.

**The availability of funds is dependent upon the volume of referrals the EF team receives each month as well as the amounts being requested. Approvals are made after all required fields on the application have been filled out and supporting documents have been sent in to the EF team.**

### Parameters:

- Colorado Victim Advocates (systems-based advocates, community-based advocates, and Child Advocacy Center advocates) that serve crime victims can submit applications on behalf of the victims they serve.
  - The EF program does not accept applications directly from victims or professionals who are not victim advocates.
    - Service providers are encouraged to collaborate with victim advocates, who can then apply for funds on behalf of victims.
- All payments are sent through electronic deposit via bill.com.
- A victim can receive assistance up to three times per calendar year, based on the availability of funds (e.g. three months of rent; two months of rent and groceries; a move, groceries, and one month's rent, etc.).
- Payments or reimbursements *cannot* be made for the following expenses:
  - Security deposits
  - Mortgages
  - Hotel incidentals/damages
  - Alcohol, tobacco, cannabis products
  - Cable, internet, streaming services, cell phones
  - Non-licensed childcare
  - Gift cards
  - Luxury items (e.g. makeup, colognes, perfumes, etc.)



- Eligibility:
  - The financial need must be directly related to a crime victimization.
  - The victim must currently live in Colorado.
  - The victimization occurred within the last 12 months.
- The financial assistance cannot be met through other sources such as Crime Victim Compensation.
- Types of assistance provided:
  - Rent (excluding utilities, internet, or other fees outside of the base rent)
  - Groceries
  - Hygiene items
  - Basic household products - e.g. toilet paper, paper towels, detergent, etc.
  - Emergency hotel stay - up to five nights in a hotel for victims with immediate safety concerns
  - Childcare from a licensed child care facility
  - Short-term nursing home shelter from a licensed facility
  - Moving expenses from a licensed and insured moving company, or from COVAs partner moving agency
  - Bus, air, train tickets for relocation purposes only

For instructions on the application process and the required supporting documents, please contact the Emergency Fund staff at 303-861-1160 or [VictimEmergencyFund@coloradocrimevictims.org](mailto:VictimEmergencyFund@coloradocrimevictims.org)

**\*This document is subject to change. Any updates will be sent out by COVA staff via the EF email listserv.**