



Message from UCA Redress Ltd National Redress Scheme- important dates

As you are probably aware, the National Redress Scheme for institutional child sexual abuse has some important upcoming closing dates.

Applications to the Scheme need to be submitted by 30 June 2027.

While there have been calls for extension to the Scheme and this closing date, there has been no indication from government at this stage that there is an intention to do so. This is a complex issue as it would require agreement from all state and territory and the Commonwealth Governments, as well as major institutions.

People who may be eligible for redress should proceed on the basis that applications need to be submitted by 30 June 2027. UCA Redress Ltd has developed some communications that you can use to share this information with potential applicants. These are available here: [Resources - UCA Redress](#).

We know that many people within and beyond the Church will have questions about what happens after the Scheme's closing date.

UCA Redress Ltd, in partnership with General Secretaries as the representatives of the Members of UCA Redress Ltd, is working through key elements in the Church's response to the Scheme's closure. We know that this issue impacts all areas of the Church, including abuse survivors. There will be communication and consultation with Church stakeholders in the coming months as we work through this complexity. This will include Standing Committees, agencies, schools, and other councils of the Church, as appropriate.

The Uniting Church continues its deep commitment to responding well to people who experienced abuse, the sustainability of our Church, and learning everything we can from past wrongs so that we continue to improve safeguarding processes.

If you have any questions, please contact UCA Redress Ltd at info@redress.uca.org.au.

Andrew Johnson
Chair
UCA Redress Ltd Member Representative Group

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* *See next page for additional information*



National Redress Scheme applications closing 30 June 2027

The National Redress Scheme (the Scheme) commenced on 1 July 2018, in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The Scheme is for people who experienced child sexual abuse while in an institution.

The Uniting Church has affirmed its commitment to justice for survivors and is committed to proactively participating in the Scheme in a trauma informed way. Please share information about the Scheme and its closing date in your communities, congregations and agencies.

How do I apply?

To apply to the National Redress Scheme, you will need to complete an application form. It's your choice how you apply. You can apply online via myGov or in writing, completing a paper-based form. You can also get the application form sent to you by calling 1800 737 377 or asking a Redress Support Service (<https://www.nationalredress.gov.au/help-support/get-free-help-apply/redress-support-services>) for one.

Redress Support Services offer free, confidential, and independent practical and emotional support. They can help you fill out an application form (<https://www.nationalredress.gov.au/help-support/get-free-help-apply>) to apply for redress and speak with the National Redress Scheme on your behalf. Information about the Scheme is available in a range of languages.

There is also specific information available to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to learn about and make applications to the National Redress Scheme here: For First Nations peoples | National Redress Scheme (<https://www.nationalredress.gov.au/help-support/resources/first-nations-peoples>).

This information and more resources can be found on the UCA Redress Ltd page on the Hub (<https://ucaredress.org.au/resources/>) or through the links below:

Direct Personal Responses in the Uniting Church (<https://ucaredress.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/DPR-in-the-Uniting-Church-fact-sheet-May-2025.pdf>)

National Redress Scheme Fact Sheet (<https://ucaredress.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/UCARL-National-Redress-Scheme-Fact-Sheet-May-2025.pdf>)

The Uniting Church encourages people who may be eligible to apply for redress under the Scheme. **The closing date for applications to the Scheme is 30 June 2027.** After 30 June 2027, people will not be able to apply for redress under the National Redress Scheme.