

Reasons Payments Are Delayed

Payments may be delayed or denied for the following reasons:

This is not an all-inclusive list:

- Crime did not occur in SC
- “Remit to address” is not on the billing statement
- Providers’ address submitted is not registered with S.C. Enterprise Information System (SCEIS)
- Victims’ name was not found on the law enforcement report
- Untimely filing of claim (claim received after **180 days** from date of service)
- The victim was incarcerated at the time of the crime
- Law enforcement did not order the exam/interview for victim 17 and younger



Legislation

Pursuant to Section 16-3-1350

South Carolina law which follows the guidance of the Federal Violence Against Women Act Statute, victims of assault in the State of South Carolina may request, at no cost to them, a forensic examination for sexual assault, regardless of their involvement with law enforcement.

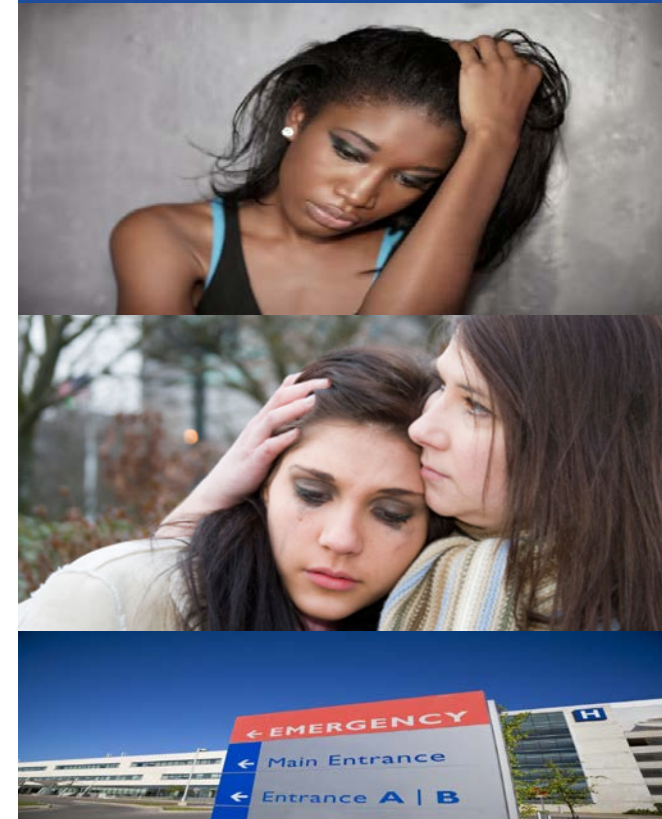
Sexual Assault Program: SOVA is the *Sole Reimbursement Provider for Forensic Medical Examinations in S.C.* Health Care Providers will bill SOVA directly; all reimbursements are from a fee schedule and are considered payment in full. Any injuries sustained beyond the sexual assault such as physical or psychological will be the victim’s responsibility. However, the victim may complete a Crime Victims’ Compensation Application to assist with the additional medical treatment. **Please Note:** *If a crime victim compensation application is filed, law enforcement will be involved, unless the victim files anonymously.*

www.sova.sc.gov
(Please click on the “Provider’s Tab” for additional information)

SOVA

State Office of Victim Assistance

Sexual Assault Program



1205 Pendleton Street, Room 401
Columbia, SC 29201
Main Office Phone: 803.734.1900
Victims Only, Please: 1.800.220.5370

www.sova.sc.gov

Sexual Assault (ACUTE) Protocol

Evidence collected within 120 hours of the assault victims 18 and older

Eligibility Criteria:

- The assault **Must** have occurred in SC
- South Carolina Law Enforcement Div. (SLED) approved Sexual Assault Protocol must be followed

Payment Requirements:

- SOVA Sexual Assault Protocol (SAP) Billing Statement **Must** be completed and submitted
- SOVA Medical Examination Release Form **Must** be completed and submitted
- Payment **Must** be requested within **180 days** from the date of service

Anonymous Reporting:

(Victims 18 and older)

- SLED approved protocol **Must** be followed in the same manner and completeness as with a traditional law enforcement forensic examination

Please Note:

When providing law enforcement information, write in “**Anonymous**” instead of the name of the law enforcement agency. To establish that the crime happened in SC, the incident county and state jurisdiction is required.

Criteria for Anonymous Waiver Payment:

- An eligible SAP/CAP claim is on file with SOVA and the crime must have occurred in SC,
- The victim sustained physical or psychological injuries, and were recorded by hospital,
- SOVA must receive a Compensation Application with “**Anonymous**” written in section 4, within 180 days from the date of forensic medical examination

Sexual Assault (ACUTE) Protocol Continued

NKC - No Evidence Collected:

When a victim of sexual assault presents to the hospital but indicates they do not want evidence collected:

- Inform the victim of their options, offering the medical forensic exam **without** evidence collection will follow the same procedures and will include a thorough examination of the victim within the **72/120 time frame**
- The NKC box **Must** be checked on the Medical Examination Release Form
- The SLED Protocol **Must** be completed and documented on page 8 of the SLED Protocol

Sexual and Physical Assault (Chronic) Protocol

Evidence collected after 72 hours of the assault - victims 17 and younger

Criteria for Payment:

- The assault **Must** have occurred in SC
- The assault was reported to law enforcement
- Law enforcement **Must** order the exam

Payment Requirements:

- Pages 1 and 2 of the Child Maltreatment Protocol Billing Statement
- Authorization and release form located in the Child Maltreatment Protocol
- Law Enforcement incident report listing each child as a victim
- Child Physical Abuse claims **Must** be submitted with a Compensation Application along with the Child Maltreatment Protocol
- Payment **Must** be requested within **180 days** from the date of service

Forensic Interview Evidence Collection Protocol

Interviews ordered only by law enforcement for children 17 and younger or vulnerable adults

Criteria for Payment:

- The assault **Must** have occurred in SC
- The assault was reported to law enforcement
- Interview ordered by law enforcement **Only**

Payment Requirements

- SOVA Billing Statement;
- SOVA Forensic Interview Release Form;
- Law Enforcement Incident Report listing each child as a victim;
- Payment must be requested within 180 days from the date of service.

Standards:

- The interview must be performed using standards defined by SOVA
- Interviewer **Must** have a Masters level degree
- Interviewer **Must** have completed a **40 hour** specialized forensic interview training
- Interviews **Must** be conducted at a facility that follows a multidisciplinary model

Should you have questions about the program, criteria and or payment requirement, please do not hesitate to contact SOVA at 803-734-1900