

Unsubmitted Sexual Assault Kits

Across the nation, unsubmitted sexual assault kits have caused concern and question for change. Unsubmitted sexual assault kits have built up in communities because of a system wide breakdown. Since 2014, Utah has been proactively working to test all unsubmitted sexual assault kits and has made significant efforts to prevent sexual assault kits from accumulating in the future.

Salt Lake County is committed to improving the overall response to sexual assault. Further efforts are being made to establish victim-centered and trauma-informed best practices, increase multi-disciplinary collaboration, increase training opportunities for all professionals working with victims of sexual assault and increase transparency throughout the criminal justice system.

Resources:

Utah Sexual Assault Kit Information Line

801-893-1145

Utah Sexual Assault Crisis Line

1-888-421-1100

Rape Recovery Crisis Line

801-467-7273

Utah Suicide Crisis Line

801-587-3000

Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA)

801-746-0404

National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN)

1-800-656-4673

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SAKI Therapeutic Treatment Fund



Are you a sexual assault survivor affected by a previously unsubmitted sexual assault kit?

Find out how to apply for treatment funds.



What is the SAKI Therapeutic Treatment Fund?

Victims of sexual assault who consent to a medical forensic exam trust that their sexual assault kit will be sent in for testing of DNA evidence. Survivors, may be affected after learning their sexual assault kit was never tested or when notified of completed testing years later. Notification or a reminder of a past assault may cause re-traumatization, flashbacks or other symptoms that heighten PTSD or other mental health issues (NIJ, 2016).

Sometimes a reminder of a past assault can trigger strong emotions, such as fear, anger, or anxiety.

The Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) has devoted funding to assist survivors with therapeutic treatment needs as a result of their previously unsubmitted sexual assault kit.

What is Considered an Unsubmitted Sexual Assault Kit?

Any sexual assault kit received by law enforcement prior to 3/22/2015 that is connected to a reported sexual assault and was not submitted to the lab for testing.

Who Qualifies for SAKI Therapeutic Treatment Funds?

A victim in Salt Lake County who is notified by law enforcement that their sexual assault case may be re-activated as a result of testing an unsubmitted sexual assault kit.

A victim of a cold case sexual assault in Salt Lake County who reengages law enforcement agencies, the victim information line, or other victim service agencies to inquire about the status of their unsubmitted sexual assault kit.

Secondary victims who are traumatically affected by the rape or sexual assault or the victim notification are also eligible.

How can I learn More About My Sexual Assault Kit?

If you would like to learn more about the status of your sexual assault kit, please contact the Sexual Assault Kit Information Line at 801-893-1145 or email ldevries@utah.gov.



How Do I Apply?

An application must be submitted to the SAKI Victim Advocate who will coordinate and approve claims. Contact your local victim advocate or the SAKI Victim advocate through the victim information line to receive an application and assistance in submission.

What will SAKI Therapeutic Treatment Funds Cover?

The SAKI Therapeutic Treatment Fund will cover outpatient mental health treatment up to \$2,500. Inpatient treatment or prior mental health treatment cannot be covered under SAKI funds.

Reimbursement of prescription or over-the-counter medications used in conjunction with mental health treatment shall be considered only for the duration of an approved Treatment Plan and is considered part of the maximum treatment award.