

YOUNG CARERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2024

Over 60,000 young people in Victoria are believed to have significant care responsibilities. They may be supporting a mother, father, sister, brother, or grandparent who has a disability, mental illness, chronic health issue or an older person with care needs.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Applications are open to secondary school students in Victoria who give care and support to a family member with a disability, mental illness, chronic health issue or an older person with care needs. The scholarship should contribute to helping students to develop their skills, participate in activities and assist with educational learning.

Applications will be accepted from young people with caring responsibilities, providing they have the knowledge and consent of a parent or guardian.

Applications will also be accepted from parents, teachers, friends or service providers on a young person's behalf and with their input.

Caring can be a very positive experience; helping a young person to develop skills and build strong relationships. But it can also have some negative effects on a young person's health and wellbeing. Many young carers are at risk of dropping out of school, or have difficulty establishing social networks and participating in activities their peers enjoy.

Over the last 16 years the Young Carers Scholarship Program has provided support to over 1,300 young carers attending secondary school in Victoria.

The scholarships give young carers the opportunity to participate in school or community based activities that enhance their skills, educational achievement and abilities, or that help them to participate more fully in their community.

PRIORITY

Highest priority will be given to applications from young people who are:

- › living in rural and regional areas
- › from First Nations or culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The following applications will be accepted but given a lower priority:

- › previous scholarship recipients
- › applications from members of the same family.

WHAT CAN BE APPLIED FOR?

Scholarships are up to \$500 and can be awarded for:

- › school or community based classes/activities, such as camps, excursions
- › school trips, or sporting club participation fees
- › tutoring
- › skills-based activities and lessons such as dance, music, fitness or driving
- › club memberships
- › direct educational expenses such as compulsory fees, books, uniforms, and fares.

WHAT WILL NOT BE FUNDED?

Voluntary school fees.

INELIGIBILITY

Applications from recipients of the Young Carer Bursary will be deemed ineligible if the applicant received funds in the 2024 calendar year (online applications made via www.youngcarersnetwork.com.au/bursary/young-carer-bursary).

HOW DO I APPLY?

Complete an online application form from our website www.carersvictoria.org.au/youngcarersprogram or scan QR Code.

All applications due by Thursday 18 April 2024.

Other information you need to know

- › Not all applications are guaranteed to be awarded a scholarship.
- › The number of scholarships awarded is dependent on available funding.
- › All scholarship payments are made by electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly to the nominated bank account of the young carer, their parent, or supplier (business, club or school).
- › The correct bank account details must be supplied when requested and Carers Victoria must be notified immediately of any changes.
- › All applicants will be notified.
- › Scholarship payments will be issued by 31 May 2024.
- › Successful applicants will be required to complete a feedback form at the end of 2024.
- › Young carers who are awarded scholarships will be invited to attend an awards ceremony in the July school holidays.
- › Scholarships are for one year only; a new application must be completed each year.
- › If you are unable to apply via the online form, please contact membership@carersvictoria.org.au or 1800 514 845 (option 4) to request an alternative application form.
- › Changes to applications must be provided via phone on 1800 514 845 (option 4) or email membership@carersvictoria.org.au

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY FOR A YOUNG CARERS SCHOLARSHIP

Scan the QR code or visit:

www.carersvictoria.org.au/youngcarersprogram



APPLICATIONS OPEN
MONDAY 4 MARCH 2024

APPLICATIONS CLOSE
THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2024

QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUNG CARERS SCHOLARSHIPS CAN BE DIRECTED TO

Young Carer Scholarship Program

T 1800 514 845 (option 4)

E membership@carersvictoria.org.au

www.carersvictoria.org.au

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUNG CARERS

For information on Young Carer Supports including online Dreamers Hub, Dream experiences, tutoring, mentoring and holiday programs, visit www.littledreamers.org.au

For Young Carer Supports please contact Carer Gateway on 1800 422 737.

For general advice around caring and supports please contact Carers Victoria on 1800 514 845 or visit www.carersvictoria.org.au/youngcarers

For information on financial support for families at school, visit www2.education.vic.gov.au/financial-help-families