



## YOUNG CARER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2025

More than 62,400 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.

### WHAT CAN BE APPLIED FOR?

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

- school or community based classes/activities, such as camps or excursions
- 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

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 maintaining social networks and participating in activities with their peers.

### PRIORITY

Over the last 17 years the Young Carer Scholarship Program has provided support to over 2,300 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.

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.

## 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 2025 calendar year (online applications made via [www.youngcarersnetwork.com.au/bursary/young-carer-bursary](http://www.youngcarersnetwork.com.au/bursary/young-carer-bursary)).

## HOW DO I APPLY?

Complete an online application form from our website:

<http://www.carersvictoria.org.au/youngcarersprogram> or scan QR Code.

All applications due by Sunday 13 April 2025

## 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 2025.
- Successful applicants will be required to complete a feedback form at the end of 2025.
- 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 [grants@carersvictoria.org.au](mailto:grants@carersvictoria.org.au) or 1800 514 845 to request an alternative application form.
- Changes to applications must be provided via phone on 1800 514 845 or email [grants@carersvictoria.org.au](mailto:grants@carersvictoria.org.au).

## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY FOR A YOUNG CARER SCHOLARSHIP

Scan the QR code or visit:

[www.carersvictoria.org.au/youngcarersprogram](http://www.carersvictoria.org.au/youngcarersprogram)



**APPLICATIONS OPEN**  
MONDAY 3 MARCH 2025  
**APPLICATIONS CLOSE**  
SUNDAY 13 APRIL 2025

## QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUNG CARER SCHOLARSHIPS CAN BE DIRECTED TO

Young Carer Scholarship Program

T: 1800 514 845

E: [grants@carersvictoria.org.au](mailto:grants@carersvictoria.org.au)

[www.carersvictoria.org.au](http://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](http://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](http://www.carersvictoria.org.au/youngcarers)

For information on financial support for families at school, visit [www2.education.vic.gov.au/financial-help-families](http://www2.education.vic.gov.au/financial-help-families)