

Media Release

The Hon Gabrielle Williams MP

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence

Minister for Women



Tuesday, 8 March 2022

SUPPORTING WOMEN TO THRIVE IN THEIR CAREERS

More women will be supported to thrive in their careers, with the Andrews Labor Government's investment in leadership programs that aim to address the structural barriers to leadership roles.

Women continue to be significantly under-represented in key decision-making roles across almost all industries. In 2021, only one of 23 chief executive officer appointments to Australia's ASX 300 companies was female.

Minister for Women Gabrielle Williams today announced \$1 million in funding for leadership programs, including new initiatives that will equip organisations to create more inclusive and diverse workplaces. Programs delivered under the funding include:

- Women's Board Leadership Program, to provide scholarships with the Australian Institute of Company Directors and to offer a new stream with the Institute of Community Directors Australia
- Joan Kirner Young Leaders Program, with a focus on supporting young leaders in male-dominated industries
- Aboriginal Women's Leadership Program, to provide culturally safe and community led training for First Nations Women
- The co-design of a Women of Colour Executive Leadership Program, to address barriers for women of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds
- Inclusive Leadership Habits program, with the National Association of Women in Operations, to build more inclusive workplaces for up to 250 leaders in male-dominated industries
- Future Women Leadership program – scholarships for rural women to join leadership forums and advance their careers
- Victorian Honour Roll of Women to honour the achievements of Victorian women.

Applications for these programs open in early 2022. For more information visit vic.gov.au/our-womens-leadership-programs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Women Gabrielle Williams

"Women have long been missing from key decision-making tables. By improving the representation of women in leadership, we're ensuring that our institutions better reflect the diversity of our communities."

"Systemic barriers continue to stand in the way of the career progression of many women. These programs will address the barriers that limit women's opportunities and experiences."

"This International Women's Day we're breaking the bias that prevents women from being represented equally in leadership"