

Media Release

The Hon Shaun Leane MP

Minister for Commonwealth Games Legacy

Minister for Veterans

Acting Minister for Prevention of Family Violence

Acting Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Acting Minister for Community Sport

Acting Minister for Youth



Friday, 1 July 2022

New Grants To Help Pave The Way For Aspiring Athletes

The Andrews Labor Government is helping Victoria's up and coming sporting stars boost their competition with grants supporting athlete development as well as travel and accommodation costs.

Acting Minister for Community Sport Shaun Leane today announced applications are now open for the latest round of the Labor Government's *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* program.

The program helps athletes, teams, coaches and officials with travel and accommodation costs associated with competing at regional, state and national levels. It also includes pathway development programs and training for emerging athletes. The funding also covers costs for training camps, competition entry and registration.

Grants of up to \$6,000 are available for recognised state sporting associations, regional academies of sport and state sport and active recreation bodies. Victorian sport and active recreation clubs can also apply for grants of up to \$2,000.

Previous grant recipients include Victorian junior triathlete Lucinda Rourke, who offset travel costs to compete in the Elite Junior Triathlon Series. Up-and-coming Shepparton basketballer Isabel Whitelaw was also supported to attend the Victorian National Performance Program training camps.

The Anglesea Surf Lifesaving Club also received \$2,000 to compete at the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships.

The *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* program has awarded more than 1,500 grants, totaling more than \$2.9 million, to help teams and athletes reach their goals since 2015.

The program is part of the Government's commitment to increase local participation, stimulate local economies and create new jobs and volunteer opportunities.

Applications for the current round of the *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* program will be open until 4 August, 2022.

For further information visit sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants.

Quotes attributable to Acting Minister for Community Sport Shaun Leane

"We're helping our athletes and future champions to reach their sporting goals by helping with travel and accommodation costs, as well as athlete development."

"This program helps our up and coming sporting stars take a step to the next level in competitive sport."

Quote attributable to Anglesea Surf Lifesaving Club President David Marsh

"The women's R&R (Rescue and Resuscitation) team were successful in achieving a bronze medal in the open event of the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships held on the Sunshine Coast in April 2021."

"Despite the challenges of the past couple of years, this grant helped our members to travel and compete, showing off their skills."

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