

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Tuesday, 10 October 2023

SUPPORTING OUR KIDS TO GET READY, GET SET, GET ACTIVE

The Allan Labor Government's latest sporting grants program will bring more Victorians together through sport, encouraging young athletes to join their local sports club and discover the benefits of being active.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced applications are now open for the latest round of the *Get Active Kids Voucher Program* to support children and families from across Victoria with the cost of participating and playing local sport.

Through the program, eligible families can apply for vouchers of up to \$200 per child to use at their registered provider without the worry of upfront costs. Each voucher can be used to pay for memberships, registration fees, uniforms, and equipment across a wide range of sporting codes and recreation activities.

The program encourages children to participate in physical activity and maximises support for families who face additional barriers to participating in community sport.

Based in Melbourne's west, Rise Netball Club has been a registered activity provider across multiple rounds of the program. Alongside welcoming newcomers, the program has also seen kids remain involved in netball to develop and hone their skills in the game they love.

Since the program started in 2020, the Government has distributed more than 115,000 vouchers to eligible families, ensuring more young Victorians can get in the game.

Importantly, around half of the recipients in the most recent round of the program indicated they would not have been able to participate in their chosen sport or activity without the voucher program.

For voucher recipients to be eligible, they must be aged 18 and under, a Victorian resident, named on a valid Commonwealth Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card and named on a valid Medicare Card at the time of application.

A special consideration stream is also available to support children residing in Victorian Care Services, temporary or provisional visa holders, undocumented migrants and international students aged 18 and under at the time of application.

The *Victorian Budget 2023/24* is providing more than \$11 million for initiatives including the *Get Active Kids Voucher Program* to help keep Victorians active and healthy and address key barriers to participation.

Applications will close once the allocation has been exhausted. Vouchers can be used up to 30 April 2024.

Families can also continue to claim reimbursement for expenses incurred from 8 May 2023.

For more information about the program and to apply, visit getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"I'm so proud of this incredibly successful program that cultivates healthy habits for young Victorians, making it easier for kids to join their friends in the sports and recreation activities they love."

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“We’ve seen more than 115,000 vouchers delivered to deserving families across the life of the program to date – that’s a huge number of children who might have missed out on the fun of participating in sport if it weren’t for the vouchers.”

Quote attributable to Rise Netball Club Coach and Co-President Mel Haley

“We’re proud to be signed up to a program that gives local kids the chance to join our teams, make new friends and be their best at the sports they love.”