

# Media Release

**The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP**

Minister for Veterans

Minister for Small Business

Minister for Youth



Tuesday, 20 August 2024

## GRANTS TO SUPPORT AND ENGAGE YOUNG VICTORIANS

The Allan Labor Government is helping young Victorians take the lead, build life skills and showcase their talents and contribution in the community.

Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman today announced the opening of applications for Engage! 2025–2027 program grants.

Grants of between \$60,000 and \$180,000 over three years or \$20,000 to \$60,000 per annum are available for youth participation and engagement activities across Victoria.

The grants will fund community organisations, local governments, Aboriginal entities and social enterprises to work with young people aged from 12 to 25 to design and deliver activities that suit their interests and the goals they aspire to achieve.

There are three categories of activities funded in the program – youth engagement and participation, youth development and youth celebration and events.

This includes activities that promote the voices of young people and their participation in decision making, help them develop new skills and showcase and recognise their contribution to their communities.

More than 70,000 young Victorians were engaged and supported in 2023 across more than 90 initiatives as part of the 2022–2024 Engage! Program – including vocational training workshops, mentoring groups and local events that took place in metropolitan and regional Victoria.

The Engage program is part of the work of the Allan Labor Government to provide young Victorians with the support and opportunities they need to reach their potential and engage with their local communities.

Grant applications are open until 23 September 2024.

For more information about the Engage! 2025–2027 program, or to apply visit [vic.gov.au/engage-2025-2027](https://vic.gov.au/engage-2025-2027).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman

*“It’s crucial our young people are given the platform to flourish, lead and explore new ways to connect with each other and their local communities.”*

*“We are continuing to invest in young Victorians – making sure they have the support and opportunities they need to learn, grow and reach their full potential.”*