

Focused On What Matters Most

Victorian Budget 2025/26

Thursday, 15 May 2025

REAL COST OF LIVING HELP FOR FAMILIES AND KIDS WHO NEED IT

The Allan Labor Government is focused on what matters most: real help with cost of living so no child misses out.

The *Victorian Budget 2025/26* is investing in real cost of living help for families who need it most, including \$152.3 million to increase the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and \$15 million to deliver the popular Get Active Kids Vouchers for another two years.

More support for camps, school sports and excursions

With the rising the cost of living, the cost of camps, school sports and excursions really add up. That's why the Budget is boosting the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and increasing the payments families receive.

Currently, eligible primary school students receive \$154 per year, while eligible secondary students receive \$256.

With an investment of \$152.3 million, all payments will be increased to \$400 from Term 1, 2026 – making sure every student gets the chance to join camps, attend excursions and play on a team with their mates.

This targeted support helps around 200,000 kids from families with a Health Care or concession card every year and has supported over 2 million students since it was introduced by the Labor Government in 2015.

Families with multiple children at the same school can pool their allocated funding to use on one child or for one specific activity – helping in situations where the costs for activities in a certain year level are higher than others.

More support for sports, activities and equipment

Whether it's swimming or soccer, every kid deserves to have a go – no matter their background. That's why the Budget delivers the popular \$200 *Get Active Kids* vouchers for another two years, helping more than 65,000 kids who need it.

These \$200 vouchers cover the cost of memberships, registration fees, equipment and uniforms for sports and popular activities, and are available to families with a Health Care or concession card.

The program covers more than 70 sports and more than 2,100 activity providers across the state – making sure every child across Victoria has the chance to take part.

Since the program launched in 2020, almost 190,000 vouchers have been provided to families. More than half of families who received vouchers reported their kids would not have been able to participate without them. 22 per cent of recipients joined a local sporting club for the first time thanks to the vouchers.

The program also boosts grassroots sporting clubs. By becoming a provider, clubs get more memberships and can provide even more opportunities for kids to reach their potential.

Quotes attributable to Premier Jacinta Allan

"We're focused on what matters most – real help with cost of living for families, and real support for every child."

"The cost of camps, sports, excursions and activities add up. We're making sure no kid misses out, because every child deserves every chance to learn and play alongside their classmates."

Quotes attributable to Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll

"For many students, a school camp or an excursion is the highlight of the year."

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"We're putting more money back in the pockets of Victorian families and making sure all students have the chance to take part."

Quote attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Families tell us that without these vouchers their kids would have missed out on playing the sport they love. We're funding them for another two years, because cost should never keep kids on the sidelines."

Quote attributable to Member for Footscray Katie Hall

"This program helps thousands of kids play the sports they love and attend the camp or excursion they'll never forget."