

Planning Ahead

A resource guide on post school options for young people with disabilities

North and West Metropolitan Region

February 2009

Introduction

This booklet is a resource for students, families and Futures for Young Adults (FFYA) Plan Facilitators outlining post school options and specialist supports available to students with disabilities as they leave school in the North and West Metropolitan Region.

This guide should be read in conjunction with '**Exploring Possibilities – post school options for young people with a disability**' published by VALID Inc, and supported by Disability Services DHS.

The topics in this booklet are not easy ones. Deciding on a career path, choosing the right educational options or adult support options can be a challenge. Planning your future involves:

- Making decisions about what interests you
- Determining what you want for the future, whether from a job or other activity
- Finding out what is available and where it is offered
- Tracking down the best people to talk to about your choices
- Asking lots of questions
- Visits to career expos
- Taking work experience opportunities

Information in this booklet also details websites to support young people in identifying what they want to do.

This resource guide is an ever evolving document, so please inform the FFYA Team at DHS N&WMR of any new information, contacts and links. Similarly if any of the information in this guide changes, please also inform the FFYA team so changes can be made.

The N&WMR FFYA Team can be contacted at the following email address:
Northandwest.ffya@dhs.vic.gov.au

This resource guide will be updated via the FFYA Facilitators Network. The FFYA team will be the author of this guide and therefore will be responsible for updating it.

Post School Pathways Planning

Students will have commenced thinking about what they would like to do after school from an early age. Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs) coordinators and careers teachers are able to support students to explore a range of post school options while they are still at school.

The development of a post school plan will assist students to explore a range of things that they may like to undertake as they make the transition to life after school. Post school plans help students to identify the things that they are good at, interested in, enjoy doing and the type of supports that might be needed to achieve post school goals.

What is Futures for Young Adults (FFYA)?

Futures for Young Adults (FFYA) is a program funded by the Department of Human Services (DHS) that can provide focused support for young people with a disability if they need assistance beyond the usual supports available, to make the transition to a range of post school options. The support is available for up to three years. Young people with a disability who meet the eligibility criteria for FFYA may be provided with:

- assistance from a FFYA transition planner to explore a range of post school options
- information about generic, community and specialist supports
- information and support to access disability supports, if required

FFYA provides an opportunity for school leavers to think about and explore a range of post school options. A transition planner meets with the school leaver and the important people in their life to talk about the things they may wish to do when they leave school. A plan is developed that captures these discussions, highlights the steps that need to be taken to achieve the chosen post school options and identifies the key people who will assist in making the plan a reality.

What is Transition to Employment (TTE)?

The *Transition to Employment* (TTE) initiative in Victoria is being developed as part of the FFYA program and provides a clear pathway for young people with a disability leaving school who are interested in pursuing employment or post school education, but who are not yet ready to move into employment or receive assistance through a Commonwealth employment program.

If you are interested in exploring employment or post school education, you may be eligible to access additional funds and supports via a TTE provider to give you an even better chance of achieving your goals.

If you are allocated a planner, they will be able to talk to you about whether you are eligible or suitable for TTE supports.

Post School Options

There are different things you can do when a young person leaves school. It is most important that young people have the right information so they can make the right choice about what they want to do.

Young people with a disability have the same right to do all the things in adult life that other people without a disability in the community enjoy.

The following pages outline a variety of post school options for young people with disabilities to consider.

Contents of this guide:

1.	Career Advice	page 5
2.	Apprenticeships and Traineeships.....	page 6
3.	Further Education and Training.....	page 7
4.	Neighbourhood Houses.....	page 11
5.	Transition to Employment.....	page 14
6.	Supported Business Services.....	page 15
7.	Disability Open Employment Services...	page 17
8.	Volunteering.....	page 19
9.	Disability Day Services.....	page 21
10.	Individualised Support.....	page 28
11.	Travel Training Assistance.....	page 29
12.	Community Options.....	page 30
13.	Financial Assistance.....	page 31

1. Career Advice

If a young person is having trouble starting the process of thinking about what they want to do, why not check out these websites first!

Future Finder – www.futurefinder.com.au

- A free, customised and personalised career information and advice service developed with input from students and careers teachers. It provides individual websites for each registered student, drawing on tailored information from databases on careers and courses.

Job Juice – www.jobjuice.gov.au

- Get help to develop a career plan, find out what skills you'll need, create a resume. Also a career quiz that will help you understand yourself and what is important to you.

My Future – www.myfuture.edu.au

- Use My Guide which is a great tool for exploring careers

Year 12 – What Next? - www.year12whatnext.gov.au

- A guide to help year 12 students plan their post school education and training

Your career guide – www.yourcareerguide.com.au

- This site offers Australian students career information and guidance to help you make the right career choice.

Career tips – www.careertips.net.au

- This site has been developed specifically as an information guide, resource kit and referral source for people with disabilities who are in their final years of school, who are about to commence or are undertaking vocational education and training (VET) studies or have recently graduated from TAFE.

Disability Online - www.disability.vic.gov.au

Look specifically in the Jobs, Training and Free Time section of this website!

Centrelink careers advise

- Make an appointment by telephoning Centrelink on 13 24 90

General Youth Websites also worth checking out include:

www.youth.infoxchnage.net.au

www.disabilitynews@infoxchnage.net.au

www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au

2. Apprenticeships, Traineeships and School Based New Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships and Traineeships combine structured training with practical hands-on experience to give young people the knowledge and skills to pursue work of their choice. If young people are interested in apprenticeships or traineeships, speak with an Open Employment Service – see page 14 of this guide.

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships normally last three to four years and are generally offered in the traditional trade industries, such as plumbing, building, carpentry, electrical etc... An apprenticeship can be full-time or part-time and throughout the duration of the apprenticeship they will undertake training at a TAFE or other approved training provider. On successful completion of an apprenticeship, the apprentice receives a nationally recognised qualification.

For more information:

- <http://www.newapprenticeships.gov.au/>
- <http://www.natinfo.com.au>

School Based New Apprenticeships (SBNAs)

SBNA's are designed to provide young people with entry level training, while at the same time allowing employers flexibility and choice in the way this entry-level training is delivered.

A school student, undertaking a SBNA, combines their VCE/VCAL studies (three days), with part-time paid work (one to two days) and training on the job (one day). Students participate in a nationally recognised, structured training program, which is delivered in partnership with the employer and TAFE or Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

For more information, contact the school's Vocational Education Teacher.

Traineeships

Traineeships normally last one to two years and are usually specific to non-trade occupations, such as Hospitality, Business Administration, Retail and Information Technology. A traineeship can be full-time or part-time and the training can be on or off the job, or a combination of both. On successful completion of a traineeship, the trainee will receive a nationally recognised qualification.

Students need to have the ability to complete Certificate 2 – assessments can be geared around low literacy and numeracy in some cases – the assessors needs to ascertain whether the student is competent or not yet competent in a given skill area.

3. Further Education and Training

Young people can keep learning and training for different things at a number of places. Options include TAFE, Universities, Adult Learning Centres (such as Neighbourhood Houses) and Registered Training Organisations. Courses can be undertaken to help young people obtain skills to get work, to live alone or just for fun.

For more information on the types of courses available, you can search the following websites:

- TAFE Course Directory - <http://www.otte.vic.gov.au/tafe/courseline/>
- Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) - <http://www.vtac.edu.au/>
- Council of Adult Education - <http://www.cae.edu.au/>
- Short Courses Victoria - <http://www.shortcourses.vic.gov.au/>
- OZJAC (Job and course explorer) - www.curriculum.edu.au/ozjacweb
- Going to Uni (an information source for prospective and continuing higher education students) - www.goingtouni.gov.au
- Disability On Line (check out the Jobs Training and Free Time section of this website) – www.disability.vic.gov.au
- Disability Central – www.disabilitycentral.com.au

TAFE and UNI Open Days

Attending TAFE and UNI Open Days is another good way to learn about what each site offers which courses etc. It is also an opportunity to meet with key uni/TAFE services such as the DLOs.

Disability Liaison Officers (DLOs)

All colleges of TAFE and Universities employ Disability Liaison Officers to assist and support students with a disability and to ensure that they are not disadvantaged in their training because of their disability. DLOs can provide assistance in a number of areas from enrolment to support assistance and advocacy

TAFE Disability Liaison Officers in Victoria

Box Hill Institute of TAFE

Ph 03 9286 9891

Email: dls@bhtafe.edu.au

Kangan Batman TAFE

Ph 03 9279 2511

Email: yandre@kangan.edu.au

http: <http://www.kangan.edu.au/services/disability/default.htm>

NMIT

Ph / TTY 03 9269 1530

Email: tamarap-ss@nmit.vic.edu.au

RMIT (& University)

Ph 03 9925 1089

<http://www.rmit.edu.au/disability>

Swinburne TAFE (& University)

Ph 03 9210 1181

<http://www.swin.edu.au/stuserv/disability/index.htm>

University of Melbourne TAFE Division (& University)

Ph 03 8344 7068

<http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/>

Victoria University TAFE Division (& University)

Ph 03 9365 2193

Email: disability@vu.edu.au

William Angliss Institute of TAFE

Ph 03 9606 2396

Email: kateh@angliss.vic.edu.au

Disability Coordination Officers (DCOs)

- Provides information, co-ordination and referral services for people with a disability interested in or enrolled in post-school education, training and employment opportunities;
- Works with education and training providers in a given region (including public VET providers such as TAFE institutions, private VET providers, universities and schools) to provide a central information source on supports and services available for students and potential students with a disability to assist them to access the most appropriate post-school education and training.

Regional Disability Liaison Officers (RDLOs)

- Provides information, coordination and referral services for people with a disability interested in or enrolled in post-school education and training. It is complemented by the Disability Coordination Officer (DCO) Program
- Improve transitions for people with a disability between schools, post-secondary education and training and employment;
- Increase awareness of post-school options, supports and services available for people with a disability, their families, support networks and relevant stakeholders;
- Increase the successful participation of students with disabilities in post-secondary education by facilitating the coordination of services for people with a disability in education and training within a region; and
- For further information, check out this website: www.adcet.edu.au/rdco

RDLOs in the N&WMR:

North & East Melbourne & surrounds

Covering north Melbourne, most of east Melbourne, the Dandenongs, and surrounding regions north to Kilmore

RMIT University

DCO: **Joanne Webber**

Phone: 03 9925 5269

Fax: 03 9925 3942

E-mail:

joanne.webber@rmit.edu.au

Address: (Building 11)

Melbourne Vic 3001

Website: www.rmit.edu.au/ssg/dco

Central & South-West Melbourne

Covering central and south-west Melbourne and Bayside

RMIT University

DCO: **Natalia Klarica**

Phone: 03 9925 3531

Fax: 03 9925 3942

E-mail:

natalia.klarica@rmit.edu.au

Address: (Building 11)

GPO Box 2476V

Melbourne VIC 3001

Website: www.rmit.edu.au/ssg/dco

The difference between the DLOs, DCOs and RDLOs?

A Disability Liaison Officer (DLO) is employed by a university or TAFE to work directly with students with a disability who are enrolled at that particular institution. Their role is to organise/facilitate appropriate accommodations to ensure the student has every opportunity to access the curriculum, facilities & learning activities of the institution

A Disability Coordination Officer (DCO) or Regional Disability Liaison Officer (RDLO) works across institutions and sectors – secondary schools, universities and TAFE's, as well as community based organisations & government departments – in order to facilitate the transition of prospective students with a disability into post secondary education & to improve their transition from tertiary education and training to post-graduate options, including employment.

Certificate I in Work Education

This is a course that is conducted in most TAFE Institutes in Victoria and may be suitable for students with disabilities, particularly those with special learning needs associated with intellectual and/or learning disability and those with challenging social/psychological behaviours. TAFE Institutes encourage good links with specialist and mainstream schools and other support services in order to effectively service prospective and current students.

Although there are other modes available, the Certificate I in Work Education course typically runs for two years full-time and prepares students for employment and/or further education and enhances students' communication and academic skills. The entrance guidelines for the Certificate I in Work Education may vary slightly from one TAFE Institute to another however, in general, applicants:

- Must be a minimum of working age
- Have special learning needs, possibly associated with intellectual, learning and/or psychological disability
- Have the potential to benefit from the program
- Have the potential and motivation for employment and / or further training

Certificate 1 in Work Education is undertaken at the following TAFE/Programs:

Box Hill Institute of TAFE

Web: <http://www.bhtafe.edu.au/Courses/SSC46.htm>

Ph: (03) 9286 9106 Email enquiries: courseinfo@bhtafe.edu.au

Kangan Batman Institute of TAFE

Melinda Freyer

mfreyer@kangan.edu.au

Course enquiries Ph: 03 9279 2451

Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE – NMIT

Web: http://www.nmit.vic.edu.au/courses/work_ed/

Ph: 03 9269 8390 Email enquiries: workeducation@nmit.vic.edu.au

The NMIT Work Education Unit is featured in an Equity Research (formerly ATEC) publication "Good Practice in equity and diversity in Victorian TAFEs". This is available at

<http://www.equityresearch.org.au> Click on the What's New link and then TAFE equity and diversity studies.

Annie Russell

annierussell@nmit.vic.edu.au

RMIT University – TAFE Division

Web: <http://www.rmit.edu.au/browse?SIMID=C1020>

Ph: 03 9925 4780 Email enquiries: mandy.morrison@rmit.edu.au

Victoria University – TAFE Division

The Adult Literacy and Work Education department is in the School of Further Education, Arts and Employment Services.

Web:

<http://www.vu.edu.au/Tafe/Schools/Further%20Education%20Arts%20&%20Employment%20Services.asp>

Ph: 03 9284 8856 Email enquiries: ccs@vu.edu.au

Victoria University of Technology

Ph: 9284 7076. Email inquiries – leon.cox@vu.edu.au

La Trobe University - LaTrobe Life Skills

Ph: (03) 9479 3815. Email: r.leslie@latrobe.edu.au

Website: www.latrobe.edu.au/lifeskills

Northern Support Service

TrainingWorx

Ph: 9486 5077 Email: nss@nss.org.au

4. Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres

Neighbourhood Houses are local organisations that provide social, educational and recreational activities for their communities in a welcoming supportive environment.

Listed below are the neighbourhood houses in the N&WMR:

**** - Indicates Houses that offer specific programs for people with a disability:**

Northern Region

Banyule:

Diamond Valley Learning Centre **	03 9435 9060	www.dvlc.org.au
Greenhills Neighbourhood Centre	03 9435 9287	
Olympic Adult Education **	03 9458 2711	www.oae.vic.edu.au
Livingstone Community Centre	03 9499 2479	www.livingstone.org.au
Rosanna Fire Station Community House**	03 9458 1935	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~rfsch
Watsonia Neighbourhood House	03 9434 6717	www.watsonianh.org.au

Darebin:

Alphington Community Centre Inc	03 9499 7227	
Jika Jika Community Centre	03 9482 5100	www.jikajika.org.au
Preston Neighbourhood House Inc	03 9484 5806	www.prestonhouse.org.au
PRACE - Preston Reservoir Adult Community Education **	03 9462 6077	www.prace.vic.edu.au
SPAN Community House	03 9480 1364	www.spanhouse.org
Thornbury Women's Neighbourhood House **	03 9480 0466	www.twnh.vic.edu.au

Hume:

Attwood House Community Centre	03 9302 2643	
Banksia Gardens Community Centre	03 9309 8531	
Broadmeadows Women's Community House	03 9309 9433	
Selwyn House, Craigieburn Ed'n & Community Centre	03 9308 1477	www.selwynhouse.org.au
	03 9302 2131	
Dallas Neighbourhood House		www.workforceplus.org.au/Dallas_Neighbourhood_House/
Meadow Heights Learning Shop	03 9302 2472	www.mhls.com.au
Roxburgh Park Homestead Community Centre	03 9308 0794	
Goonawarra Neighbourhood House	03 9740 6627	www.workforceplau.org.au/gnh/
Sunbury Community House	03 9744 4455	
Tullamarine Community House Inc	03 9338 9072	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~tuch/

Moreland:

Brunswick Neighbourhood House **	03 9387 9901	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~bnch/
Newlands Community Centre	03 9350 3437	
Robinson Reserve Neighbourhood House	03 9386 7128	
Sussex Neighbourhood House **	03 9354 2210	
Fawkner Community House	03 9357 4631	

Nillumbik:

Living and Learning Nillumbik - Diamond Creek ** 03 9438 5350
 Living and Learning Nillumbik- Eltham/Panton Hill 03 9439 3463
[Allwood Neighbourhood House Inc.](#) 03 9718 2717
 Living and Learning Nillumbik - Panton Hill 03 9439 3463

Whittlesea:

[Lalor Living and Learning Centre](#) 03 9465 6409 <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~lalorllc/>
 Mill Park Community House & ATSS ** 03 9404 4565
 Kaleidoscope Neighbourhood House 03 9716 3361

Yarra:

Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre ** 03 9347 2739
 North Carlton Railway Station Neighbourhood House 03 9380 6654
 Princes Hill Community Centre Inc 03 9387 7740
 Collingwood Neighbourhood House 03 9428 1676 www.yarranet.net.au/cnh/
[Fitzroy Learning Network Inc](#) 03 9417 2897 www.fitzroylearningnetwork.org.au
 Holden Street Neighbourhood House Inc 03 9489 9929
 Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Inc 03 9428 1676 www.yarranet.net.au/banh/
[Burnley Neighbourhood Centre Inc.](#) 03 9428 9410 www.yarranet.net.au/~burnley/
 Finbar Neighbourhood House 03 9428 7668 www.finbar.websyte.com.au

Western Region

Brimbank:

[Community West](#) 03 9363 1811 www.communitywest.org.au
 Hunt Club Community Arts Centre ** 03 9363 3877
 St Albans Community Youth Club Inc 03 9366 4302 <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~tinshed/>
 Westvale Community Centre 03 9367 6647
[Duke St Community House](#) 03 9311 9973 www.dukestcommunityhouse.org
 Sydenham Community Centre 03 9390 3977 <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~sydenham/>

Hobsons Bay:

Altona Meadows Neighbourhood House 03 9369 6979
 Altona Meadows Community Centre Inc 03 9315 8244
[Laverton Community Centre & N'hood House Inc](#) 03 9369 4866
[Outlets Co-op Ltd. N'hood Rec Centre](#) 03 9319 8504 <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~outlets/>
 Seabrook Community Centre ** 03 9395 3010
[South Kingsville Community Centre](#) ** 03 9399 3000
 Spotswood Community House 03 9391 2613
 Williamstown Community & Education Centre 03 9397 7349 <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~outcc/>

Maribyrnong:

Angliss Neighbourhood House	03 9687 9908	
West Footscray Neighbourhood House	03 9687 3345	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~wfnh/
Yarraville Community Centre	03 9687 1560	www.ycc.net.au

Melton:

Hillside Community Centre	03 9747 7238	
Djerriwarrh Employment & Education Services Inc	03 9743 7100	www.djerriwarrh.org.au
Melton South Community Centre	03 9747 8576	

Melbourne:

North & West Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre	03 9328 1126	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~nawmhc/
---	--------------	---

Moonee Valley:

Wingate Avenue Community Centre	03 9376 5244	www.wingateave.com.au
Flemington Neighbourhood House Inc	03 9376 9088	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fnhouse/
Kensington Neighbourhood House	03 9376 6366	

Wyndham:

Heathdale Community Centre	03 9741 2233	
Werribee Community Centre Inc	03 9742 4013	http://home.vicnet.net.au/~wbeecc/
Wyndhamvale Community Centre Inc	03 9741 0457	

5. Transition to Employment (TTE)

The Transition to Employment Initiative in Victoria is being developed as part of the FFYA program and provides a clear pathway for young people with a disability leaving school who are interested in pursuing employment, but who are not ready to move into employment or receive assistance through a Commonwealth employment program (See Disability Open Employment Services).

TTE is available to eligible students from when they complete their schooling until they turn 21.

The services participating in TTE are as follows:

Wesley Mission Melbourne- Pathways 2 Employment

154 Nicholson Street, Footscray, VIC 3011
Contact Person: Christina Osagiede, Program Manager
Contact Number: (03) 9687 0033

NorthStar Specialist Employment Services (Formerly NRESS)

Preparation For Employment & Access To Community (PEAC)
725 High Street, Epping, VIC, 3076
Contact Person: Amanda Song, Program Coordinator
Contact Number: (03) 9408 5299

Jobsupport Inc.

Office Suite 1
27 Hope Street, Brunswick, VIC, 3056
Contact Person: Jane Williams
Contact Number: (03) 9387 8900

Northern Support Services- Employ@ability/Training Worx

30 Union Street
Northcote, VIC, 3070
Contact People: Anil Gaundar and Jean Mason
Contact Number: (03) 9486 5077, Jean's mobile – 0418 181 321

6. Supported Business Services

These are businesses that make money. Most of the people that work for supported businesses have disabilities. The businesses are there to give a person with a disability a chance to work in a job and get paid. These places are for people who would find it difficult to work without assistance.

Supported businesses across the N&WMR are listed below:

Name: **Ability Works Australia**

Address: 1 Yarra Boulevard, Kew

Phone: 03 9853 7080

Contact: Evonne Hickey, Manager Workplace Support

Website: <http://www.abilityworks.com.au>

Name: **Brite Industries**

Address: Cnr Belfast St/Dallas Dr, BROADMEADOWS

Phone: 03 9309 5111

Website: <http://www.briteind.com.au>

Name: **Arts Project**

Address: 24 High Street, NORTHCOTE

Phone: 03 9482 4484

Website: <http://www.artsproject.com.au>

Name: **BEA Gardens and BEA Windows and Cleaning**

Address: 859 Sydney Road, BRUNSWICK

Phone: 03 9384 0400

Website: <http://www.bea.org.au>

Name: **Brunswick Industries Association Inc**

Address: 3-7 Syme Street, BRUNSWICK

Phone: 03 9387 1433

Name: **CHESS, St John of God**

Address: 108-130 Diamond Creek Road, GREENSBOROUGH

Phone: 03 9435 8366

Website: www.stjohnofgod.org.au/chess.html

Name: **Creative Opportunities, Salvation Army**

Address: 10-18 Pinning Street, BRUNSWICK

Phone: 03 9386 7611

Name: **Dual Ware Industries, Yooralla**

Address: 79 Hyde St, FOOTSCRAY

Phone: 03 9689 1611

Website <http://www.yooralla.com.au>

Name: **Dual Ware Industries Northern**

Address: 32 Wilkinson Street, BRUNSWICK

Phone: 03 9689 1611

Website <http://www.yooralla.com.au>

Name: **Hi City Industries**

Address: 98 Oriel Road, WEST HEIDELBERG

Phone: 03 9497 3555

Website: <http://www.hi-city.com.au>

Name: **Highpoint Industries, Scope**
Address: 14 - 16 Williamson, MARIBYRNONG
Phone: 03 9318 6366
Website: <http://www.scopevic.org.au>

Name: **VATMI Industries**
Address: 12 Keon Park Rd, KEON PARK
Phone: 9416 8338
Website: www.vatmi.com.au

Name: **Y.E.S.S. Industries, Ivanhoe-Diamond Valley Centre for Intellectually Disabled Adults**
Address: 88 McNamara Street, MACLEOD
Phone: 03 9459 8175

Name: **Mambourin Enterprises**
Address: 11-19 Walls Road, WERRIBEE
Phone: 03 9731 8200
Website: <http://www.mambourin.org>

Pre Vocational Programs

Alpha Terrace
St Silas Church, 99 Bridport Street, Albert Park, 3206
9699 3255
Rob Millar
robm@alpha-autism.org.au

Mambourin– Garden Biz
50 Stanford Street
Sunshine VIC 3020
9364 7999
Jackie Gravatt
jackieg@mambourin.org

7. Disability Open Employment Services

Disability Open Employment Services, also known as Disability employment assistance, is targeted at job seekers with disabilities need ongoing support to gain and maintain employment.

Listed below are open employment services across the N&WMR:

Name: **Brunswick Employment Agency**

Address: 384 Sydney Rd, BRUNSWICK

Contact: (03) 9384 0400

Website: www.bea.org.au

Name: **Brotherhood of St Lawrence - GAPCo**

Address: 67 Brunswick Street. Fitzroy

Contact: (03) 9483 1183

Website: www.bsl.org.au

Name: **Crosslink Employment Service**

Address: 548 Mount Alexander Rd MOONEE PONDS

Contact: (03) 9372 0675

Name: **Distinctive Options**

Address: 25 Victoria Cr ST ALBANS

Contact: (03) 9310 9055

Website: www.distinctiveoptions.com.au

Name: **Graduate and Professional Career Options**

Address: 67 Brunswick St FITZROY

Contact: (03) 9483 2471

Name: **Interact Jobplus**

Address: 230 Church St RICHMOND

Contact: (03) 9428 0155

Website: www.interactaust.com.au/jobplus/

Name: **JobCo Employment Services – targeting mental health!**

Address: 243 Sydney Rd COBURG

Contact: (03) 9386 0999

Website: www.jobco.com.au

Name: **Jobs West**

Address: 72 Lincoln Rd ESSENDON

Contact: (03) 9379 0477

Website: www.jobswest.com.au

Name: **Northern Regional Employment & Support Service**

Address: 725 High St EPPING

Contact: (03) 9408 5299

Website: www.nress.com.au

Name: **Wesley Employment Services Footscray**

Address: 154 Nicolson St FOOTSCRAY

Contact: (03) 9687 0033

Website: www.wesley.org.au

Name: **Wesley Employment Services Preston**

Address: 267 High St PRESTON

Contact: (03) 9416 8699

Website: www.wesley.org.au

Name: **WCIG - Disability Employment Services – target mental health**

Address: 151 Nicolson St FOOTSCRAY

Contact: (03) 9689 3437

Name: **WISE Employment**

Address: 329 Main Rd East, ST ALBANS

Contact: (03) 9356 0711

Website: www.wiseemployment.com.au

Name: **WISE Employment**

Address: 336 High Street Northcote

Contact: (03) 9482 2102

Website: www.wiseemployment.com.au

Name: **SensWide Services – a division of the Victorian Deaf Society**

Address: Level 7, 34 Queen St, Melbourne

Contact: (03) 9614 3070

Website: www.senswide.com.au

Name: **Matchworks**

Address: 40 Synott Street, Werribee

Contact: (03) 8742 3444

Website: www.matchworks.com.au

Name: **Jobsupport Inc**

Address: 1/27 Hope St BRUNSWICK

Contact: (03) 9387 8900

Website: www.jobsupport.org.au

8. Volunteering

A volunteer is someone who works without getting paid for it. People usually choose volunteer work to:

- Contribute to the community
- Gain experience
- Met people
- Learn new skills

Some volunteer centres in the N&WMR to check out are:

Volunteering Victoria

7th Floor, 388 Bourke Street
Melbourne 3000
Ph: (03) 9642 5266
Fax: (03) 9642 5277
Email: info@volunteeringvictoria.com.au
Web: www.volunteeringvictoria.com.au

Community Information Whittlesea

Shop 111, Epping Plaza
Cnr Cooper & High Streets
Epping 3076
Ph: (03) 9401 6666
Fax: (03) 9401 6677

Darebin Volunteer Resource Centre

Contact: Norma Ress
287 High Street
Preston 3072
Ph: (03) 9495 0144
Fax: (03) 9495 0122
Email: Norma_DCISC@tpg.com.au

Volunteers of Banyule

Contact: Barbara Dixon
68 Macorna Street
Watsonia North 3087
Ph: (03) 9432 6466
Fax: (03) 9432 6744
Email: volsban@netspace.net.au
Web: www.govolunteering.org.au

Volunteer West

Contact: Rick Harrison 130 Buckley Street
Footscray, VIC, 3011
Ph: (03) 9687 7661
Fax: (03) 9687 7661
Email: rick@westernvrc.org.au

C.E.R.E.S – Volunteer Gardening Program

8-10 Lee Street, East Brunswick 3087
8380 8111
Chris or Melissa (Program Manager)
www.ceres.org.au

Some useful volunteering websites to also check out:

Go Volunteering

www.govolunteer.com.au

Volunteering Australia

www.volunteeringaustralia.org

www.volunteer.infoxnage.net.au

www.volunteersearch.gov.au

9. Disability Day Services

Day services are for people with an intellectual disability and offer different activities such as computers, bushwalking, sports, human expression, drama, music, arts and crafts, cooking and community activities.

The ranges of Day services across the N&WMR have been listed below:

Banyule:

Name of Organisation:	Araluen Centre (Lower Plenty Site)
Service Name/Program Name:	Araluen Adult Training Learning and Support Services (ATLASS)
Location Address:	226 Old Eltham Road, Lower Plenty 3093
Melway Map Reference:	Map 21 F10
Telephone:	(03) 9439 2805
Facsimile:	(03) 94310818
Email:	grahamg@araluen.org
Contact Person:	Graham Goudie (Acting Chief Executive Director)

Name of Organisation:	Araluen Centre (Rosanna Site)
Service Name/Program Name:	Araluen Adult Training Learning and Support Services (ATLASS)
Location Address:	2-6 Turnham Ave, Rosanna 3084
Melway Map Reference:	Map 32 A1
Telephone:	9458 3355
Email:	grahamg@araluen.org
Contact Person:	Graham Goudie (Acting Chief Executive Director)

Name of Organisation:	Ivanhoe Diamond Valley Centre for Intellectually Disabled
Service Name/Program Name:	Life Education
Location Address:	88 McNamara Street, Macleod 3085
Melway Map Reference:	Map 20 A8
Telephone:	(03) 9459 8175
Facsimile:	(03) 9459 1750
Email:	aschickerling@idv.com.au
Contact Person:	Adam Schickerling (Program Manager)

Name of Organisation:	La Trobe Life Skill Pty Ltd
Service Name/Program Name:	La Trobe Life Skills
Location Address:	Social Sciences Building Room 109 La Trobe University Bundoora 3083
Melway Map Reference:	Map 19 G6
Telephone:	(03) 9479 3815
Facsimile:	(03) 9479 1192
Email:	r.leslie@latrobe.edu.au
Contact Person:	Ros Leslie (Program Director)
Website:	www.latrobe.edu.au/lifeskills

Name of Organisation:	St John of God Services
Service Name/Program Name:	Choices Support Services; Churinga Support Services
Location Address:	189 St Helena Road, Greensborough 3088; 108-130 Diamond Creek Road, Greensborough 3088

Melway Map Reference:	Map 11 D12; Map 11 B10
Telephone:	(03) 9434 5155 (03) 9435 8366
Facsimile:	(03) 9434 5948
Email:	pmcleod@st.johnofgod.org.au
Contact Person:	Peter McLeod (Manager – CHESS, Churinga and Choices)
Website:	www.stjohnofgod.com.au

Name of Organisation:	Scope Vic
Service Name/Program Name:	Northern Lifestyle Program Heidelberg
Location Address:	15 Alamein Road, Heidelberg West
Melway Map Reference:	19 E12
Telephone:	(03) 9456 9788
Facsimile:	(03) 9455 2929
Email:	mhogan@scopevic.org.au
Contact Person:	Coordinator: Maree Hogan
Website:	www.scopevic.org.au

Darebin:

Name of Organisation:	The Deaf Blind Association
Service Name/Program Name:	Spectrum NorthWest Day Services
Location Address:	3 Ethel St, Thornbury
Melway Map Reference:	MAP 30 F4
Telephone:	(03) 9495 0705
Email:	spectrum.north@dba.asn.au
Contact Person:	Rosanna Logiusto
Website:	www.dba.asn.au

Name of Organisation:	Alpha Autism Inc.
Location Address:	30B Union St, Northcote 3070
Melway Map Reference:	Map 30 D11
Telephone:	(03) 9486 5677
Facsimile:	(03) 9486 5699
Email:	ellend@alpha-autism.org.au
Contact Person:	Ellen Dow- Thaite (ATSS Manager)
Website:	www.autismvictoria.org.au

Name of Organisation:	Arts Project Australia Inc.
Location Address:	24 High Street, Northcote 3070
Melway Map Reference:	Map 30 E11
Telephone:	(03) 9482 4484
Facsimile:	(03) 9482 1852
Email:	apa@hard.net.au
Contact Person:	Lena Cirillo (Executive Director)
Website:	www.artsproject.org.au

Name of Organisation:	Northern Support Services
Location Address:	30A Union Rd, Northcote 3070
Melway Map Reference:	Map 30 D11
Telephone:	(03) 9486 5077
Facsimile:	(03) 9486 5488
Email:	gail.younie@nss.org.au
Contact Person:	Gail Younie (CEO)

Planning Ahead – North and West Metropolitan Region 2009

Name of Organisation:	Interact Australia
Service Name/Program Name:	Interact Learning Services
Location Address:	383 Belmore Rd, Balwyn
Melway Map Reference:	46 H5
Telephone:	(03) 9857 3444
Email:	mhulbert@interactaust.com.au
Contact Person:	Mark Hulbert
Website:	www.interactaust.com.au

Hume

Name of Organisation:	Broadmeadows Disability Services
Service Name/Program Name:	Broadmeadows ATSS
Location Address:	241 Camp road, Broadmeadows 3047
Melway Map Reference:	Map 7 A9
Telephone:	(03) 9309 7448
Facsimile:	(03) 9309 9274
Email:	john@bds.org.au
Contact Person:	John Pini (CEO)
Website:	www.bds.org.au

Name of Organisation:	Distinctive Options Ltd.
Service Name/Program Name:	C.A.R.D.S. (Community Access, recreation and Development Services); Stepping Stones
Location Address:	24 Macedon Street, Sunbury 3429
Melway Map Reference:	Map 382 E3
Telephone:	(03) 9740 7244
Facsimile:	(030) 9740 8130
Email:	rick.dunn@d-o.com.au
Contact Person:	Rick Dunn (Manager, Day Services)
Website:	www.distinctiveoptions.com.au

Moreland

Name of Organisation:	Carinya Society
Service Name/Program Name:	Carinya ATSS
Location Address:	6 Bellevue Street, Coburg 3058
Melway Map Reference:	Map 29 F1
Telephone:	(03) 9354 3337
Facsimile:	(03) 9354 3947
Email:	chha@tpgi.com.au
Contact Person:	John Airey (CEO)
Website:	www.carinyasociety.com.au

Name of Organisation:	Melbourne City Mission
Service Name/Program Name:	Bridges
Location Address:	27 Austin Cres, Pascoe Vale
Melway Map Reference:	Map 16 K8
Telephone:	(03) 9304 1523
Email:	jdeurwaarder@mcm.org.au
Contact Person:	Jen Deurwaarder (General Manager, NorthWest)
Website:	www.melbournecitymission.org.au/disability2

Planning Ahead – North and West Metropolitan Region 2009

Name of Organisation:	Milparinka ATU Inc.
Service Name/Program Name:	Milparinka Brunswick
Location Address:	331 Albert Street, Brunswick 3056
Melway Map Reference:	Map 29 F7
Telephone:	(03) 9387 9985
Facsimile:	(030) 9381 1284
Email:	frank.crupi@bigpond.com
Contact Person:	Frank Crupi (CEO)

Name of Organisation:	Yooralla Society of Victoria
Service Name/Program Name:	First Base
Location Address:	Prospect Street, Pascoe Vale
Melway Map Reference:	Map 17A8
Telephone:	9354 1012
Email:	june.sutton-ryan@yooralla.com.au
Contact Person:	June Sutton-Ryan
Website:	www.yooralla.com.au

Name of Organisation:	Scope Vic
Service Name/Program Name:	Northern Lifestyle Program Coburg
Location Address:	50 Murray Road, Coburg
Melway Map Reference:	17 K10
Telephone:	(03) 9354 8244
Fax:	(03) 9350 6254
Email:	mhogan@scopevic.org.au
Contact Person:	Coordinator: Maree Hogan
Website:	www.scopevic.org.au

Whittlesea

Name of Organisation:	Mill Park Community Services Group
Service Name/Program Name:	Mill Park ATSS
Location Address:	68 Mill Park Drive, Mill Park 3082
Melway Map Reference:	Map 9 K7
Telephone:	(03) 9404 4565
Facsimile:	(03) 9436 8110
Email:	admin@millparkcommunityhouse.com
Contact Person:	Lynne Harris (Director)

Name of Organisation:	Plenty Valley Community Health Services Inc.
Service Name/Program Name:	Plenty Valley Disability Services
Location Address:	31A Morang Drive, Mill Park
Melway Map Reference:	Map 9 J1
Telephone:	(03) 9407 9699
Facsimile:	(03) 9436 8799
Email:	pina.telgenkamp@pvchs.org.au
Contact Person:	Pina Telgenkamp (Manager, Disability Services)

Name of Organisation:	Whittlesea District Helping Hands Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
Service Name/Program Name:	ACE (Adult Continuing Education)
Location Address:	851 High Street, Epping
Melway Map Reference:	Map 8 J8
Telephone:	(03) 9401 1844
Facsimile:	(03) 9408 7368
Email:	whittleseaahha@hotmail.com
Contact Person:	Sarah Russell (Executive Director)

Planning Ahead – North and West Metropolitan Region 2009

Name of Organisation:	Whittlesea District Helping Hands Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
Service Name/Program Name:	Community Connections and Whittlesea District Recreation and Respite.
Location Address:	26 Vasey Avenue, Lalor 3075
Melway Map Reference:	Map 9 A4
Telephone:	(03) 9401 1204
Email:	whittleseaahha@hotmail.com
Contact Person:	Sarah Russell (Executive Director)

Yarra

Name of Organisation:	Milparinka ATU Inc.
Service Name/Program Name:	Milparinka Brunswick
Location Address:	138 Lord St, Richmond
Melway Map Reference:	Map 2H C9
Telephone:	(03) 9428 6004
Email:	frank.crupi@bigpond.com
Contact Person:	Frank Crupi (CEO)

Brimbank

Name of Organisation:	St John of God Services
Service Name/Program Name:	Brimbank Support Services
Location Address:	551-555 Melton Highway, Sydenham 3021
Melway Map Reference:	Map 3 B11
Telephone:	(03) 9449 0899
Facsimile:	(03) 9449 3430
Email:	nmurphy@st.johnofgod.org.au
Contact Person:	Neal Murphy (Manager- Brimbank Support)
Website:	www.stjohnofgod.org.au

Name of Organisation:	Yooralla Society of Victoria
Service Name/Program Name:	First Base
Location Address:	1 Andrea St, St Albans 3021
Melway Map Reference:	Map 26 A2
Telephone:	(03) 9310 8704
Facsimile:	(03) 9310 9817
Email:	caroline.mcmillan@yooralla.com.au
Contact Person:	Caroline McMillan (Program Director- First Base)
Website:	www.yooralla.com.au

Name of Organisation:	WestNet
Service Name/Program Name:	Allara
Location Address:	Cnr Miles and Ballarat Rd, Deer Park
Melway Map Reference:	Map 25 D8
Telephone:	(03) 9361 8500
Email:	gpoulis@westnet.vic.edu.au
Contact Person:	Georgina Poulis (Program Manager)

Name of Organisation:	Scope Vic
Service Name/Program Name:	Outworks
Location Address:	432 Main Road West, St Albans
Melway Map Reference:	25 H1
Telephone:	(03)9356 0966
Email:	Jbremner@scopevic.org.au
Contact Person:	Coordinator: Jodi Bremner
Website:	www.scopevic.org.au

Name of Organisation:	Scope Vic
Service Name/Program Name:	St Albans Lifestyle Options
Location Address:	432 Main Road West, St Albans
Melway Map Reference:	25 H1
Telephone:	(03) 9366 7433
Fax:	(03) 9306 6654
Email:	preis@scopevic.org.au
Contact Person:	Coordinator: Peter Reis
Website:	www.scopevic.org.au

Hobsons Bay

Name of Organisation:	Mambourin Enterprises
Location Address:	130 Queen Street, Altona 3018
Melway Map Reference:	Map 54 H11
Telephone:	(03) 9398 4022
Facsimile:	(03) 9398 4020
Email:	dkennedy@mambourin.org
Contact Person:	David Kennedy (Program Manager)
Website:	www.mambourin.org.au

Name of Organisation:	Alpha Autism Inc.
Service Name/Program Name:	Alpha West
Location Address:	60 Rosala Avenue, Altona North 3025
Melway Map Reference:	Map 40 K11
Telephone:	(03) 9315 3356
Facsimile:	(03) 9315 3949
Email:	bobbys@alpha-autism.org.au
Contact Person:	Bobby Scott (Program Director)
Website:	www.autismvictoria.org.au

Maribyrnong

Name of Organisation:	Annecto Inc.
Service Name/Program Name:	David House
Location Address:	Little David Street, Yarraville 3013
Melway Map Reference:	Map 41 J8
Telephone:	(03) 9314 0988
Facsimile:	(03) 9315 1258
Email:	marie.braudigom@annecto.org.au
Contact Person:	Marie Braudigom (Program Director)
Website:	www.annecto.org.au

Name of Organisation:	Footscray Community Arts Centre
Service Name/Program Name:	ArtLife Program
Location Address:	45 Moreland Street, Footscray 3011
Melway Map Reference:	Map 42 E5
Telephone:	(03) 9362 8888
Facsimile:	(03) 9362 8804
Email:	info@footscrayarts.com
Contact Person:	Maxine Yates (Program Manager)
Website:	www.fcarts.org.au

Planning Ahead – North and West Metropolitan Region 2009

Name of Organisation:	WestNet
Service Name/Program Name:	WestNet Sunshine
Location Address:	Ravenhall Street, Braybrook 3019
Melway Map Reference:	Map 41 B1
Telephone:	(03) 9313 0800
Facsimile:	(03) 9312 5147
Email:	bgillies@westnet.vic.edu.au
Contact Person:	Barbara Gillies (Program Manager)

Name of Organisation:	Scope Vic
Service Name/Program Name:	Chis- Lon
Location Address:	175 Mitchell Street, Maidstone
Melway Map Reference:	27 F11
Telephone:	(03) 9317 0433
Facsimile:	(03) 9317 0933
Email:	chislon@scopevic.org.au
Contact Person:	Coordinator: Lee Darling
Website:	www.scopevic.org.au

Melton

Name of Organisation:	Merrimu Centre
Location Address:	Kurunjang Drive, Melton 3337
Melway Map Reference:	Map 337 C5
Telephone:	(03) 9747 8980
Facsimile:	(03) 9747 8435
Email:	thowell@merrimuserservices.com.au
Contact Person:	Trish Howell (Coordinator)

Moonee Valley

Name of Organisation:	Muscular Dystrophy Association
Location Address:	111 Boundary Road, North Melbourne 3051
Melway Map Reference:	Map 43 B2
Telephone:	(03) 9320 9555
Facsimile:	(03) 9320 9595
Email:	aquaife@mda.org.au
Contact Person:	Alan Quaife (Chief of Staff)
Website:	www.mda.org.au

Name of Organisation:	YMCA Footscray
Service Name/Program Name:	Macey Heights Day Program
Location Address:	45- 47 Macey Avenue, Avondale Heights 3034
Melway Map Reference:	Map 27 E6
Telephone:	(03) 9318 6751
Facsimile:	(03) 9318 6726
Email:	maceyhts@vicnet.net.au
Contact Person:	Kaye Stebbing (Day Program Manager)

Wyndham

Name of Organisation:	Mambourin Enterprises
Service Name/Program Name:	Mambourin Enterprises- Wyndham
Location Address:	11-19 Walls Road, Werribee 3030
Melway Map Reference:	Map 205 D7
Telephone:	(03) 9731 8208
Facsimile:	(03) 9741 4451
Email:	mlampasiak@mambourin.org
Contact Person:	Margaret Lampasiak
Website:	www.mambourin.org.au

10. Individualised Support

There are agencies that can help young people to access community based options with the assistance of support workers if FFYA funding has been eligible and provided. All support is individually tailored to match people's interests and goals.

Listed below are agencies that provide this service:

Pathfinder NorthWest

Pathfinder Coordinator
48-50 Box Forest Road, Glenroy
Ph: 9357 4933

E.W Tipping FFYA Program

110 Drummond St, Oakleigh
Ph: 9564 1000

Yooralla Ignition Response Program

Cath Burns
48-50 Box Forest Rd, Glenroy
Ph: 9831 5660

CREATE

Veronica Treloar
Werribee Business Centre, Suite 6/1 Station Place, Werribee
Ph: 9974 1144

Australian Community Support Organisation

355 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000
(03) 9320 4000

WDATSS FFYA Outreach Program

851 High St, Epping
9401 1844

Autism Plus

63 Raleigh St
West Meadows
97821843
www.autismplus.org.au

Bright Futures / Interart

Located at the Abbotsford Convent and Preston Neighbourhood House
94161840
www.interactaust.com.au

11. Travel Training Assistance

The services listed below may be able to support individuals with travel training assistance to get to a young person chosen post school option.

DHS – Disability Client Services – Outreach team

Contact Team Leader: Margot Burbidge
03-9275-7094

DEAC Education and Training

Level 8, 55 Swanston Street, Melbourne
9655 1133
www.deac.org.au

Travellers Aid

Level 2 169 Swanston Street MELBOURNE
Phone: (03) 9654 1938
<http://www.travellersaid.org.au/tadas/index.html>

Melbourne City Mission: Community Living Support Service – Outreach

213 – 219 Brunswick St, Brunswick
9385 6326
Contact: Kerrie Sedgewick

12. Community Options

The Region has recently introduced the Community Inclusion and Capacity Development Unit to promote the MetroAccess initiative and to work across disability services to increase community opportunities for people with a disability.

For information on this Unit, please contact:

- Unit Manager: Sylwia Pichel-Smaczmy – 9412 2662
- Community Building Project Officer: Dianne Knight - 9412 5472

MetroAccess is being undertaken in partnership with local government, who have been funded to employ project officers to work across all areas of community infrastructure such as health, housing, education, employment, transport, community services and leisure, to plan and develop opportunities for greater participation and inclusion.

To find out information about new and exciting things in each local government area across the N&WMR, please contact the following MetroAccess Workers:

MetroAccess Contact Names and the Council Switch numbers are:

Banyule: Sonya Maunders – 9490 4222

Darebin: Roderick McIvor – 8470 8888

Hume: Anna Krousortis – 9205 2200

Moreland: Celia Robinson – 9240 1111

Nillumbik: Angela Lampard – 9433 3111

Whittlesea: Kate Karrasch – 9217 2170

Yarra: Adrian Murphy – 9205 5555

Brimbank: Wendy Rose – 9249 4000

Hobsons Bay: Nada Stojkovic – 9932 1000

Maribyrnong: Eilis Hughes – 9688 0200

Melton: Clare Thurman – 9747 7200

Melbourne: Tasia Karlis – 9658 9658

Moonee Valley: Peter Whelan – 9243 8888

Wyndham: Stephen Bell – 9742 0777

Access for All Abilities develops and supports sport and recreation environments that are inclusive for people with a disability. For up-to-date information at a local level, please contact the following AAA workers:

Access for All Abilities Contact Names and the Council Switch Number

Banyule: Michelle McAuley– 9490 4222

Darebin: Geoff Rietschel - 8470 8888

Hume: Sarah Hooker -9205 2200

Moreland: Joe Luppino - 9240 1111

Nillumbik: Jenny Gregory - 9433 3111

Whittlesea: Trent Prince - 9217 2170

Yarra: Chrissy Billings - 9205 5555

Brimbank: Dulce Antonio - 9249 4000

Hobsons Bay: Lesley Orrell - 9932 1000

Maribyrnong: Lisa Biffin - 9688 0200

Melton: Darren Cunningham - 9747 7200

Melbourne: Geoff Rietschel - 9658 9658

Moonee Valley: 9243 8888

Wyndham: Shane Lacchiona - 9742 0777

13. Financial Assistance – CENTRELINK and other concessions

Centrelink Disability Officer Contacts

Centrelink has a number of Disability Officers whose role it is to support Centrelink customers who have disabilities. Centrelink Disability Officers can assess and advise people with disabilities as to what benefits and programs they may be entitled to. If you require more information contact one of the CDO's in your region

To locate the Centrelink Disability Officer in your region call 132717. If you are Deaf or hearing impaired the TTY No. is: 1800 810 586.

Youth Allowance

Youth Allowance helps if you are a young person who is studying, undertaking training or a New Apprenticeship, looking for work, or sick

Young people may get Youth Allowance if they are:

- o aged 16-24 and studying or undertaking a New Apprenticeship full time (or aged 15 if considered [independent](#)), or
- o aged 16-20 and looking for work full time (or aged 15 if considered [independent](#)), undertaking a combination of [approved activities](#) like Work for the Dole or volunteering, or have a temporary exemption from the [Activity Test](#) (for example, due to illness), or
- o aged 25 and over and studying or undertaking a New Apprenticeship full time, if you were getting Youth Allowance immediately before turning 25 and are still doing the same course or New Apprenticeship. (Other full time students aged 25 and over can apply for Austudy), and
- o meet [residence requirements](#).

Newstart

If young people are unemployed, Newstart Allowance helps them while they are looking for work and allows them to participate in activities designed to increase your chances of finding work

Young people may get Newstart Allowance if they:

- o are aged 21 or over and under [Age Pension](#) age (65 for a man and between 62 and 65 for a woman, depending on the year she was born)
- o are unemployed
- o are prepared to enter into a [Preparing for Work Agreement](#) or Participation Agreement
- o are an Australian resident, in Australia and not subject to the two year newly arrived residents waiting period
- o are not involved in industrial action
- o satisfy the [income and assets test](#), and
- o satisfy the [Activity Test](#).

Austudy

Young people qualify for Austudy payment if they are:

- o over 25 years
- o doing an approved full-time course at an approved institution or undertaking a full-time New Apprenticeship, and
- o meet [residence requirements](#).

Disability Support Pension

Young people may get Disability Support Pension if they have an illness, injury or disability and are:

- o aged 16 or over and under Age Pension age, and
- o assessed as not being able to work full time or be retrained for full time work for at least two years because of your illness, injury or disability, **or**
- o permanently blind, **or**
- o participating in the Supported Wage System (SWS).

Important: In most cases young people must have lived in Australia for a total of 10 years as an Australian resident, or your disability occurred while you were an Australian resident.

Travel Concessions

Victoria Multi-Purpose Taxi Program (M40)

The Multi Purpose Taxi program helps Victorian with severe and permanent disabilities use taxis at an affordable rate

Taxi cards entitle young people to half price taxi fares to the maximum value of a \$50 trip (where you would pay only \$25). For trips that cost more than \$50, the young person will need to pay the difference. To be eligible for this card the young person must have vision of 6/36 or less in both eyes or have a permanent disability that limits independent travel on public transport. Application forms must be signed by a medical practitioner (ophthalmologist or general practitioner).

Application forms may be obtained from:

Taxi Directorate
Phone
(03) 9320 4360 or 1800 638 802
Postal Address
VicRoads, PO Box 666, North Melbourne VIC 3051
Street Address
14-20 Blackwood St, North Melbourne VIC 3051

Disability Parking Permits

A state-wide Disabled Persons' Parking Scheme currently operates in Victoria. The Scheme provides for two permit categories with varying parking concessions, based on the applicant's need for assistance.

Under Category One, permit holders with significant intellectual or ambulatory disabilities who meet the eligibility criteria are entitled to park a vehicle in a special bay reserved for people with a disability only, for the specified time only, or may park a vehicle in any ordinary area or bay for twice the specified time (upon payment of any initial parking fee, if applicable).

Under Category Two, permit holders who require rest breaks when walking may park a vehicle in any ordinary area or bay for twice the specified time (upon payment of any initial parking fee, if applicable). The permit label should be carried by the permit holder when he / she is not being transported in a vehicle. Permits must not be left on display when the vehicle is not engaged in the process of transporting a permit holder.

Category Two permit holders are not permitted to park in special disabled persons' parking bays.

How to apply:

Application forms are available from municipal councils. Permits will only be issued to established residents of a municipality. The first part of the application form must be completed by you or your agent. The rest of the application form should be completed by the Specialist Medical Practitioner or Clinical Psychologist for intellectual disabilities and the Medical Practitioner for all other disabilities. The completed form must then be returned to the council in which you reside. You or your agent are responsible for any fees incurred in the completion of the form. Your authority for the Medical Practitioner / Specialist Medical Practitioner / Clinical Psychologist to release medical information, is to be signed and given to him / her. An organisation providing a transport service to the disabled is required to complete a separate application form.

Mobility Allowance?

Young people may get Mobility Allowance if they:

- o are 16 or over, **and**
- o have a disability that prevents you from using public transport without substantial help for the next 12 months or longer (there does not need to be public transport in your area for you to qualify), **and**

- are undertaking vocational training, voluntary work, paid work, independent living/life skills training, or a combination of these for at least 32 hours every four weeks on a continuing basis, **or**
- have an agreement to look for work through the Job Network, **or**
- are undertaking jobsearch activities under the Competitive Employment, Training and Placement (CETP) program administered by FaCS (CETP Services are also known as Open Employment Services), **or**
- are getting Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance or Austudy and are required to satisfy the Activity Test, **and**
- need to travel to and from your home as part of your work, training or job seeking, **and**
- are an Australian resident, in Australia and not subject to the two year newly arrived residents waiting period.

Health Care Card

A Health Care Card entitles young people to reduced cost medicines as well as a limited number of other concessions.

Young people can get a Health Care Card if they:

- get one of the following payments:
 - [Newstart Allowance](#)
 - [Exceptional Circumstances Relief Payment](#)
 - [Special Benefit](#)
 - [Sickness Allowance](#)
 - [Partner Allowance](#)
 - [Widow Allowance](#)
 - [Youth Allowance](#) (only job seekers receive a card automatically, you need to apply as a low income earner if you are a full-time student)
 - [Parenting Payment \(Partnered\)](#)
- maximum rate of [Family Tax Benefit Part A](#)
- [Mobility Allowance](#) (if you are not receiving [Disability Support Pension](#))
- [Carer Allowance](#) (for a child under 16 years with a disability - the card is for the direct benefit of the child only).

What benefits does the Health Care Card provide?

The card entitles young people to reduced cost medicines under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

As well as this, young people may also be entitled to a limited number of extra concessions from state and local government authorities. Health Care Card concessions vary from state to state and some of these extra concessions are also available to your dependents. Concessions from state and local government authorities may include reductions in:

- health care costs including ambulance, dental care and eye care
- public transport costs
- water rates
- energy/electricity bills.

Companion Card

The Companion Card allows people with a profound disability, who require attendant care for the rest of their lives, to participate in community activities and events without discrimination.

Companion Cards can be presented at participating organisations where cardholders will not be required to pay an admission fee for their companion who is providing attendant care.

Participating organisations (affiliates) will recognise all Companion Cards, which share common visual identity and security features.

The Companion Card operates in several states of Australia. Contact the Companion Card in the state or territory in which you reside for more details:

- The Companion Card Information Line can provide you with information about the Companion Card program
 - Companion Card Information Line on: 1800 650 611

Or if you are Deaf, have a hearing impairment, or have complex communication needs, and you would like to access the Companion Card Information Line, please telephone:

- TTY: 1800 898 888
- National Relay Service: 13 36 77
- Speech to Speech Relay Service: 1300 555 727