



21 November 2025

Circular to principals of Catholic schools in Victoria

2026 Conveyance Allowance and School Bus Programs

Main Points

- Changes to the Conveyance Allowance Program (CAP) and School Bus Programs (SBP) provided by the Victorian Department of Education (DE) will take effect from the 2026 school year, in line with the introduction of free public transport for Victorians under the age of 18 from 1 January 2026.

Conveyance Allowance Program

- From 1 January 2026, most students enrolled at Victorian schools can travel for free on public transport with a youth myki card.
- This means eligible families will no longer need to claim a public transport ticket reimbursement through the CAP.
- Students who turn 18 will still need a valid public transport ticket for travel. Where eligible for the CAP, families can continue to claim a public transport ticket reimbursement. Schools should help eligible families understand their reimbursement entitlements.
- The youth myki card cannot be used for travel on non-subsidised bus services or privately arranged bus services. There will be no change to reimbursements for eligible families accessing these services.
- The criteria for eligibility under the CAP will remain the same and there are no changes to the policy for private car and private bus allowances.
- Schools should refer to [Conveyance Allowance Program: Processing applications \(using SCAS\) | VIC.GOV.AU | Policy and Advisory Library](#) for information regarding the eligibility criteria and the processing of CAP claims.

School Bus Program

- From 1 January 2026, DE will remove the School Bus Program (SBP) term fare for students who are ineligible for transport assistance. The youth myki card cannot be used to travel on SBP services.
- Eligibility for the SBP has not changed. Victorian non-government school students will still be eligible if they attend their nearest non-government school according to denomination and live 4.8 km or more from their campus.
- DE will continue to assess applications for ineligible students according to the SBP policy. Ineligible students may be able to access a bus seat where one is available, after all eligible students have been accommodated.
- While ineligible travellers will no longer be required to pay a term fare for travel, all other conditions of travel apply, including the need to relinquish a seat should a student with a higher priority require access to the service.
- Schools should refer to [School Bus Program: Policy | VIC.GOV.AU | Policy and Advisory Library](#) for information regarding the eligibility criteria and management of SBP travel approvals

Actions Required

- Schools are asked to note the above information.

Additional Information

- Information on the department's transport assistance programs is available for families via [Travelling to school | vic.gov.au](#).
- Information on public transport, including free travel from 2026, will be available later in Term 4, 2025 – refer to the [myki types webpage](#) on the Transport Victoria website.

Contact/Enquiries

- For all enquiries relating to the Conveyance Allowance Program, please contact the Department of Education via 1800 060 970 (Option 1) or conveyance@education.vic.gov.au
- For all enquiries relating to the School Bus Program, please contact the Department of Education via 7022 2247 or student.transport@education.vic.gov.au



Professor Elizabeth Labone
Chief Executive Officer