

About the young people

Any young person between the age of 16 and 21 who has a learner permit can refer themselves to the program, provided they meet the criteria of not having access to a suitable supervising driver and/or vehicle.

Volunteering with CDCH

CDCH promotes children's safety and wellbeing, and commits to protecting children from abuse. As an employer of staff and volunteers, we value diversity and respect all people including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; lesbian, gay bisexual, transgender and intersex people; people with a disability and culturally and linguistically diverse people.

We are committed to providing adequate insurance cover for volunteers whilst carrying out their volunteer roles.

For more information, contact the L2P Coordinator on 5479 1000 or visit our website www.cdchcastlemaine.com.au



Castlemaine
District
Community
Health

L2P
LEARNER
DRIVER
MENTOR
PROGRAM

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Volunteering
for the Mount Alexander
L2P Program

For more information refer to our website
www.cdchcastlemaine.com.au
Or call Reception on 5479 1000

Your Community Health Centre

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L2P LEARNER DRIVER MENTOR PROGRAM



Would you like to make a real difference in the life of a young person?

Become a volunteer driver mentor with Mount Alexander's L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program!

Castlemaine District Community Health delivers the local L2P Program on behalf of the Mount Alexander Shire Council. The L2P Program is a state-wide initiative funded by TAC and managed by VicRoads. This community-based program aims to provide the opportunity for young people, who face a significant barrier (economic, social or other), to achieve their probationary licence with the support of a skilled driver mentor.

Why become a driver mentor ?

Mentoring is a relationship where a more experienced person helps a less experienced person achieve their goals. The main aim for a mentoring program is to link generous community people to others who need a bit of support, friendship and time.

Driver mentors provide very practical support by helping a young person achieve their goal of 120 mandatory hours of driving practice.

Having a driver's licence opens up employment, training and social opportunities for a young person. Furthermore, research has found that 120 hours of driving practice can significantly reduce the likelihood of crash involvement for

young drivers. This makes us all safer on the roads.

What's involved in becoming a driver mentor?

After the initial screening and training (a free one day session which is provided by VicRoads), mentors become volunteers of CDCH. They are then matched one-on-one with a young learner driver. The mentor and young person arrange to commit to an hour of driving practice a week, using the vehicle supplied by CDCH. All on-road costs are covered by CDCH and as one of our volunteers you will be protected with insurance that covers injury to or by volunteers, and public liability insurance.

Our volunteers have a code of conduct to guide ethical practice, and the young people have their own code of conduct too.

We encourage our mentors to stay with their young person until they achieve their probationary licence. This could take up to 18 months but most commonly learners achieve their goal much sooner than this.

All learner drivers will be at a standard of being able to safely handle a vehicle before they are matched. A professional driving instructor will take you both out for your first drive together. Funding is available for further professional driving lessons as the learner progresses.

What support can driver mentors expect?

You will have the support of the L2P project coordinator. CDCH recognises a responsibility to support our mentors for their own wellbeing, and to ensure the best experience for the young person. As an organisation we aim to provide meaningful and well-supported volunteering roles.

Apart from the initial training, the project coordinator is available for ongoing support and guidance. Mentors

are encouraged to inform the coordinator of any concerns or issues arising within the mentoring relationship.

What does the training involve?

The driver mentor training gives everyone an opportunity to decide whether mentoring is what they really want to do. The training also provides you with some valuable information on how to approach your role as a supervising driver, what your roles and responsibilities are and how to best work with the learner driver to get the most out of the experience. You will also be provided with some valuable resources which you will likely need to continually refer to throughout the program. This training is free and provided by VicRoads.

Being a supervising driver is very different to being a professional driving instructor. It is important that you attend the training so you have a clear understanding of the distinction between the two roles.

What qualities would make me suitable for this role?

We encourage individuals with the following experiences, qualities and attributes:

- Experience and/or interest in working with young people
- Good communication skills
- Flexibility
- Able to participate in the supervising driver/mentor training
- Commitment to take a young person out driving for a minimum of one hour per week
- Punctuality
- Appreciate an obligation to exercise a duty of care for the learner with all reasonable care being taken to ensure safety is maintained.

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