



STUDENT LEADERS PROGRAM 2023

SHAPE THE FUTURE!

SSV IS SEEKING STUDENTS

SSV are looking for students between Years 5 to 12 to apply to be considered for the **Student Leaders Program**.

SHAPE SCHOOL SPORT

Be part of the change you want to see within school sport in Victoria.



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WHO IS SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

School Sport Victoria (SSV) delivers school sporting programs to schools across Victoria for both primary and secondary students. [Read more on page 4.](#)

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HOW TO APPLY

Applications are to be submitted online via the link from **Tuesday, 18 October to 5.00pm Friday 4 November 2022.** [Read more on page 12.](#)



WHO IS **SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA?**

School Sport Victoria (SSV) delivers school sporting programs to schools across Victoria for both primary and secondary students.

If you've ever competed in an interschool sport round-robin it's likely that this was a School Sport Victoria program.

School Sport Victoria provides opportunities for Victorian students to participate in over 30 sports each year. School teams and individuals can progress all the way from their local district or division competition to a State Championship.



SSV'S STRATEGY AND THE **SSV STUDENT LEADERS GROUP?**

SSV's [Strategic Directions 2020 to 2030](#) aims to provide clear direction for School Sport Victoria to engage more Victorian students in school sport by creating more opportunities to participate and addressing current and future challenges.

School Sport Victoria's key priorities over the next five years are:

1. Enabling students of all abilities and those from low socio-economic areas to participate in a variety of sports which are integrated within school sport pathways.
2. Engaging primary school students to participate in a variety of sports, to build foundation skills, concentration, confidence, and enjoyment.
3. Retaining secondary school students in sport, through competitive and social formats, to support social belonging, resilience, leadership, and academic learning.
4. Encourage girls to participate in sports which are inclusive and leverage existing social friendships.
5. Enhancing the development of students' athletic abilities, leadership, and wellbeing through talent pathways.

One of SSV's strategies to enhance the value of school sport is to listen to students' advocacy for, and agency in informing the design and delivery of school sport to maximise participation – this is where the SSV Student Leaders come in.

THE AIM



The aim of the SSV Student Leaders will be to provide feedback and advice to School Sport Victoria to guide the future of school sport in Victoria, by advising on:

- Advising on the design and delivery of school sport.
- Making the school sport experience enjoyable and welcoming for all students.
- Knocking down the barriers to sport often experienced by Victorian students.
- Showing us how and telling us why Victorian students want to be engaged in school sport.
- Ensuring that a safe and enjoyable environment is provided for all students to participate in school sport, regardless of their fitness, experience, or skill level.



WHAT WILL BE INVOLVED FOR THE STUDENT LEADERS?

Being a member of SSV's Student Leaders Group will involve a 12-month commitment – for the 2023 school year – from both the student and their school

The group will meet eight times - twice each term - throughout 2023, with all but one meeting being held online to allow students from all over Victoria to easily participate.

The online meetings will be held during school hours and run for 1-1.5 hours each and timing/day will vary to ensure students aren't repeatedly missing the same class.

It is currently planned that an initial in person meeting be held at the beginning of term 1 2023 hosted in a central Melbourne area.

This will provide the group with an opportunity to form relationships and get to know each other before embarking on their Student Leaders project together throughout the remainder of 2023.

Group discussions will be led by two facilitators throughout the year. The facilitators will have a background in sport, providing students the opportunity to get to know a pair of Australian sporting personalities and build confidence to speak and lead within an encouraging and welcoming environment.



Each meeting will cover off on a school sport topic and will aim to not only inform School Sport Victoria as to what Victorian students want, but also to provide the Student Leaders with a learning opportunity to take away and utilise in their schooling and future work lives.

Some topics of discussion may include:

- Understanding what motivates Victorian students to be involved in school sport
- Ensuring that a safe and enjoyable environment is provided for all students to participate in school sport regardless of their fitness, experience, or skill level.
- Approaches to re-engage students back into playing school sport including reducing drop out
- How to increase participation and reduce barriers for students and schools in regional Victoria, girls and students with a disability
- Ways to engage students in other aspects of school sport beyond participation (e.g. umpiring, coaching, event planning etc)
- Addressing barriers to students continuing to participate in sport outside of school

Students will bring their personal opinions and experience to the group discussions. Following some sessions there may be a small amount of homework that students are asked to complete. There will also be an expectation that students seek the opinion of their fellow students at their school. Schools will nominate a teacher at the school to support students with gathering this feedback.

WHAT ARE THE LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS GROUP?

Being part of the SSV Student Leaders Group can provide students with an opportunity to develop a range of skills, including:

1. Leadership skills, through:
 - Student-led conversations.
 - Collaboration with a wide range of personalities.
2. Communication skills, through:
 - Presentation and discussion in a group setting.
 - Listening to and interpreting the needs of a group.
3. Research skills, through:
 - Gathering insights from a peer group.
 - Critical thinking and analysis based on feedback.

It also aims to provide students the opportunity to gain insights into how a major sporting organisation and program operates in Victoria.



WHO SSV ARE LOOKING FOR TO JOIN THE STUDENT LEADERS GROUP:

School Sport Victoria is seeking feedback and advice from a broad range of students, as part of the SSV Student Leaders Group, including students who do and don't regularly participate in school sport.

Students from all genders, abilities, backgrounds and places in Victoria are encouraged to apply, to ensure the group has a diverse mix of students represented.



WHAT WILL BE INVOLVED FOR THE SCHOOL IN SUPPORTING A STUDENT TO APPLY TO BE A SSV STUDENT LEADER?

To support the student's application, the school Principal is required to sign a [consent form](#) which:

1. Provides endorsement of the student as someone who is a great leader and critical thinker. We want to be sure that each of the selected as Student Leaders are prepared for the task and will contribute to being part of a diverse group.
2. Consents to provide a 'teacher mentor' to assist the Student Leader in facilitating research among their peers. The teacher will support the student in gathering feedback from other students by providing them with ideas or a platform to conduct their research. Your students nominated teacher mentor will receive any information that SSV sends to students before and after each session. In the student's application for the Student Leaders Program, it is asked that they nominate a teacher mentor that they are comfortable to work with.
3. Consents for the student to take part in virtual meetings during school time twice per school term (approx. 1.5 hours each, twice each term) with one day of face-to-face workshops to in Term 1.

At each meeting, SSV will have one teacher mentor present to provide supervision and duty of care for students at the meeting. We will offer each teacher mentor the opportunity to come along to one session as a teacher mentor across the year if they have capacity.

The teacher mentors who have attended sessions in 2022 have indicated it was a valuable experience to join in on one session to help them getting a better understanding of the program.

WHAT SSV NEEDS FROM YOU?

School Sport Victoria needs your support to identify suitable students and inform them of the SSV Student Leaders program.

Please encourage any students within your school to view the information on the [SSV website](#) and speak with their parents about the program if they are interested in applying.

We encourage you to [download SSV Student Leaders promotional graphic](#) to include in your next school newsletter.

SSV wants students with a range of experiences to be represented in this group, from your best school athlete to students who have had little or no experience in participating in school sport. Please encourage any student who you think will have a voice and be able to advise School Sport Victoria in a unique way to apply. School Sport Victoria are searching for students of all genders, abilities, backgrounds from across Victoria.

HOW TO APPLY

Student applications are to be submitted online via the link below.

[SSV Student Leader Application](#)

Applicant information will be used in accordance with [SSV's Privacy Policy](#).

Applications will officially open from **Tuesday, 18 October** and will remain open until 5pm on **Friday, 4 November 2022**.

“ Our purpose is to develop young people through school sport. ”

Rayoni Nelson
School Sport Victoria
Chief Executive Officer

Join the conversation and stay connected to the latest SSV news. Visit this page of the [SSV website](#) to follow SSV on our preferred digital media platforms.

www.ssv.vic.edu.au

