

The **Transport Accident Commission (TAC) L2P Driver Mentor Program**, a Victorian Government initiative, assists disadvantaged young people between 16 to 23 years by providing supervised driving lessons with trained volunteer mentors. This program helps participants achieve the 120 hours of driving experience required under the Victorian Government's Graduated Licensing System.

Since 2008, Whittlesea Community Connections, in partnership with the City of Whittlesea¹, TAC and Department of Transport and Planning has delivered the TAC L2P program to the Whittlesea and Kinglake communities. Thanks to the dedication of our volunteer mentors, over 192 young people have obtained their probationary licenses. Along with responsible driving, this program has expanded life aspirations, including improved employment opportunities, access to education, and greater family mobility for community engagement.



Over 12,435

volunteer driver
mentor hours.²



\$583,559

worth of volunteer
time.³



At least
**409 young
learners**

accessed the program.

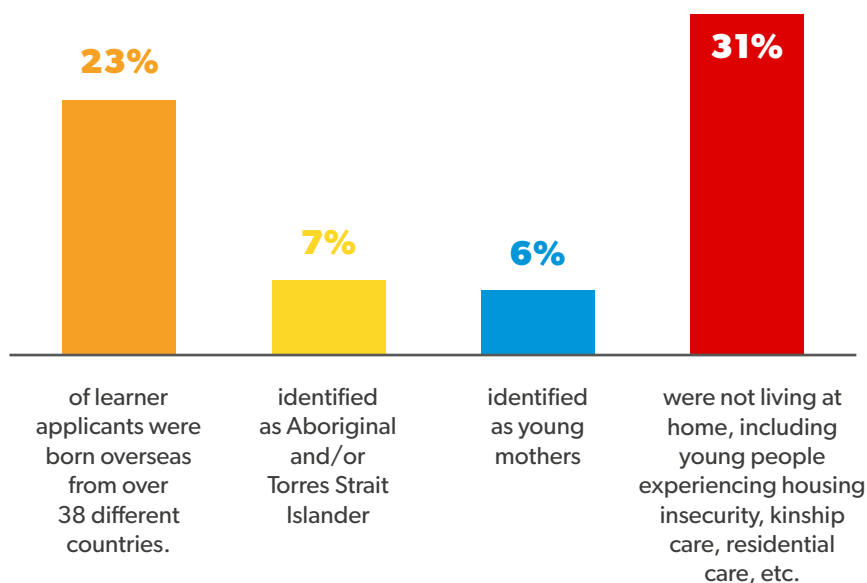


**2 successful program
completions per month**

with probationary
licenses obtained.



Demographic Data⁴



“

I can drive now and I am independent, L2P program made sure that I can attend the university.”

MAKALA MCKENZIE, TAC L2P LEARNER



1. City of Whittlesea auspiced the program from 2008 to 2017. Since then, they have partnered with Whittlesea Community Connections by providing spaces for the program's vehicles.
2. Although the program began in 2008, systematic data collection at Whittlesea Community Connections commenced in 2011. This impact statement reflects data gathered since 2011.
3. Estimate calculated using Volunteering Victoria cost of volunteering calculator. See www.volunteering.com.au/resources-tools/cost-of-volunteering-calculator
4. Demographic data for learner applicants are recorded from 2021.

Volunteer Engagement

95

Volunteer Mentors involved

22%

were aged 65 or over

40%

were women

Mentors lived in over

22 different suburbs

across Whittlesea,
Hume and Merribek



Exploring Melbourne's photographic hotspots while learning to drive

Annam Rashid didn't expect to learn about Melbourne's most scenic locations while learning to drive a car.

But when she joined the L2P program in 2024, her dedicated mentor Louisa Bortolome, a volunteer with Whittlesea Community Connections, knew connecting to Annam's passion for photography would help inform her driving lessons.

Together they explored scenic locations in Melbourne, making lessons both educational and enjoyable.

"We talked about my interests, and she would take me on drives," says Annam.

"I like photography, so she would try to take me to areas ideal for it. During our breaks, we would talk about the scenery and the history of Melbourne—there were a lot of things I didn't know, so it was a really great experience."

For Annam, getting her licence wasn't just important for her own independence, it improved the mobility for her family too.

With her father living away and her mother unable to drive, Annam plays a crucial role in the family's transportation needs.

"And it has also cut down my daily commute which has given me more time to spend on my own personal growth."

The experience with Louisa has made Amman consider becoming a volunteer driving mentor herself.

"I would love to be a part of volunteer program as a mentor and just engage with the community. There's so much you can do to influence a person," she says.

"During my drives I not only picked up how to be a safe driver, I learned to handle different kinds of situations. It has taught me to be an independent person because in driving, especially when you're on the road, you're the one in charge of the car. You're the one in charge of everyone's safety around you. It taught me to be more responsible."

Annam's journey with the L2P program shows the impact structured driving mentorships can have. Beyond gaining her licence, Annam built confidence, developed life skills, and cultivated a deeper connection with her community. Her experience highlights the importance of personalised mentoring and community-driven initiatives in empowering young drivers.



LOUISA BARTOLOME, TAC L2P DRIVER MENTOR

“

Most learners completing 120 hours will have similar driving skill-sets. L2P goes next level. The distinct 4 Stages of this Program gives learners the capacity to apply their driving skills in lots of different & challenging road, weather conditions, is respectful of our shared community spaces with strong focus on driver-safety.”

