

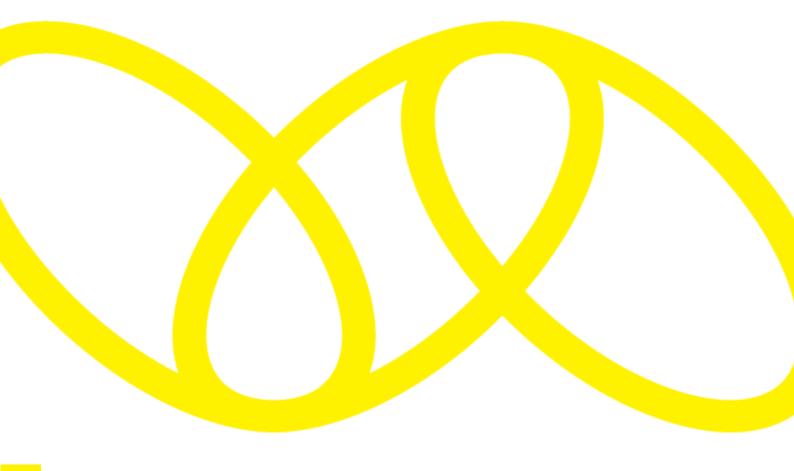
Blindness. Low Vision. Opportunity.

Tertiary Ready information



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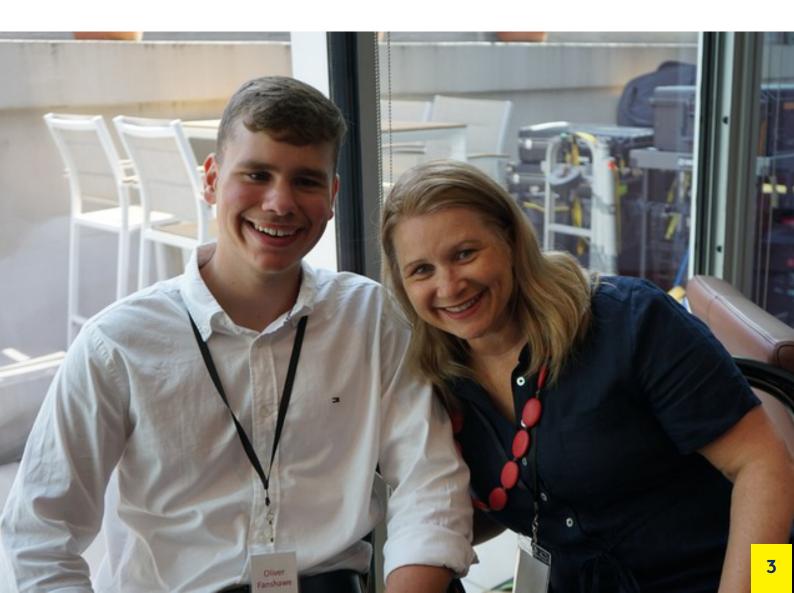


Introduction

Vision Australia provides expert services to help prepare young people who are blind or have low vision for the next steps in their education.

We can support your child to have the information and skills to make choices about their future and the confidence to start to take a primary role in decision-making.

Tertiary Ready is an innovative program that is designed specifically for young people aged 14 to 18 years old who are blind or have low vision and are interested in entering tertiary education. This is a 6week program running from May to June, 2025, and is tailored to each participant's needs and goals. Participants can live anywhere in Australia.



The 2025 program

The Tertiary Ready program will build a young person's ability to succeed in tertiary education by supporting them to achieve goals across the following domains:

- choice and control
- education
- social and community participation
- relationships
- daily living
- lifelong learning
- health and wellbeing.

Tertiary education is a big transition for students, and Vision Australia recognises the need for young people to develop an awareness of their individual needs when making this transition. Participants will complete the course with a better knowledge of the tertiary environment, potential challenges and with resources to help with their journey.



Registrations close: April 7, 2025

Program starts: Week commencing May 19, 2025

Group sessions:

- Tuesday, June 3, 2025 | 7pm 8.30pm (AEDT)
- Tuesday, June 10, 2025 | 7pm 8.30pm (AEDT)
- Tuesday, June 17, 2025 | 7pm 8.30pm (AEDT)

Program ends: Week commencing June 23, 2025

Individual sessions will be booked between participant and Vision Australia service providers.

Course structure

Tertiary Ready simulates a real tertiary environment by combining online and virtual components. Participants will listen to lectures, discuss topics with their peers, navigate an online learning system and complete assignments.

Pre-course: Weeks commencing May 19 and May 26, 2025

Participants begin the program with individual sessions with service providers to discuss their individual needs in regard to the tertiary environment. The following will take place after school hours in the weeks of May 19 and May 26, 2024.

- **90-minute meeting with primary service provider:** This session determines overall goals as well as goals specific to the Tertiary Ready program. The participant will also discuss their tertiary readiness in organisational, travel, technology and time management skills.
- **45-minute meeting with adaptive technology specialist:** This session discusses the participants individual needs in regards to technology and use of the online system created for the program.

Group program: 90-minute group Teams sessions for three weeks.

These meetings include lecture and discussion components. Participants register via an online Learning Management System (LMS), where they can complete assignments, access meetings, connect with other participants and access additional components.

Participants are given three assignments, one for each week of the program, which they are expected to complete outside of group time and submit in the LMS.

Post course: Week commencing June 23, 2025

1-hour session with primary service provider to reflect on the program and set future goals to ensure tertiary success.

It is highly recommended that participants follow up the program with 15 hours of allied health services, individualised to each participant's goals.

Time commitment

The program is designed to work outside of school hours. In addition to individual and group sessions, participants are expected to complete assignments individually and in a group.

Program delivery

The program is delivered by Vision Australia service providers by telehealth (via Teams). The primary service provider is typically an occupational therapist but can be from another discipline depending on the participants needs.

Participants are supported throughout the program by the Tertiary Ready staff, adaptive technology helpdesk and Vision Australia offers two free office hours where participants can join a Teams meeting to ask questions or receive assistance on their assignments.

Cost

Appropriate NDIS funding can be used for this program.



For more information or to register your interest, email <u>academy@visionaustralia.org</u>.

Vision Australia has metro and regional centres around Australia. Call us on 1300 847 466 or visit our website at <u>visionaustralia.org</u> to find out the one closest to you.



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