

Welcome to the second edition of *In the Passenger Seat* for the year.

WHAT WE HAVE FOR YOU THIS MONTH

We have another BIG newsletter for you this month with updates from:

- > The Australian Tax Office
- > Department and Regulator updates
- > Social media updates
- > Programs for driving instructors
- > Industry news from around Australia and much more....

Remember, much of the information provided within this newsletter is selected so you (the instructor) can share it with clients and peers.

Providing more than an education focused on the physical ability to drive is what sets a professional driving instructor apart from others.

Whether a conversation starter, a poignant message or part of an interactive discussion, we sincerely hope this newsletter helps.



ST BERNARD'S COLLEGE ESSENDON – SAFE DRIVER PROGRAM

Last month Intelligent Training Solutions delivered its annual Safe Driver Program to some of the students at St Bernard's College in Essendon.

Through this program we had the pleasure of providing an employment opportunity for 10 instructors across Melbourne via an extended invitation through the Driver Trainers of Australia page.

Ten instructors from various driving schools participated on a wonderful driving day through the Macedon Ranges area, providing the participating students a unique opportunity to spend a day in dual controlled vehicles with a qualified driving instructors, learning from their expertise.

On behalf of the ITS team, we must say thank you to all those instructors who participated on the day. As mentioned by their school coordinator, *"Driving on those unique roads with their classmates was undoubtedly the year's highlight for the student cohort"*.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a thank you to St Bernard's College in Essendon for their continued support of the program and their dedication to educating their students in 'all things' Road Safety related. Well done St Bernard's College!

RECEIVE YOUR **FREE**
NEWSLETTER DIRECT
TO YOUR EMAIL

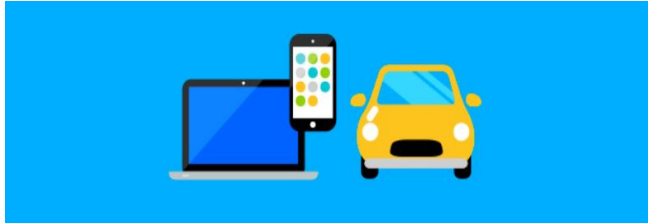
REGISTER @:
WWW.ITS.VIC.EDU.AU/NEWSLETTER

AUSTRALIAN TAX OFFICE SMALL BUSINESS NEWSROOM

This month from the Australian Tax Office

LOW TO MIDDLE INCOME TAX OFFSET

Release 22nd July 2019



You will be entitled to some of the low and middle income tax offset if your individual taxable income is less than \$126,000.

- > The maximum offset is \$1,080 per annum. The base amount, which applies for incomes up to \$37,000 is \$255 per annum
- > The amount you receive depends on your income and how much tax you've paid throughout the year. It **doesn't mean** that you will automatically get an extra \$1,080 in your tax return.

This offset is separate from the Small business income tax offset which can reduce the tax you pay by up to \$1,000

Best of all, you don't need anything different to claim these offsets. Just lodge your individual tax return and the ATO will automatically process any offsets you are entitled to.

An offset is not an automatic refund

It's important to remember that an offset is **not** a refund. The offset reduces the amount of tax you pay on your taxable income.

PICK UP YOUR FREE COPY AT
PARTICIPATING VICROADS
OFFICES

RUNNING YOUR BUSINESS FROM HOME?

Release 02nd July 2019

If your home is your main place of business, you may be able to claim the business portion of some of your expenses such as:

- > Electricity
- > Cleaning
- > Mortgage payments
- > Rent payments

It can be tricky to know what you're entitled to claim, so the Australian Tax Office has created a fact sheet to help you get your home-based expenses right.

Their small business home-based expenses fact sheet will help you answer common questions about:

- > Whether you can claim running expenses or occupancy expenses
- > Separating private and business use
- > Capital gains tax
- > Records you need to keep

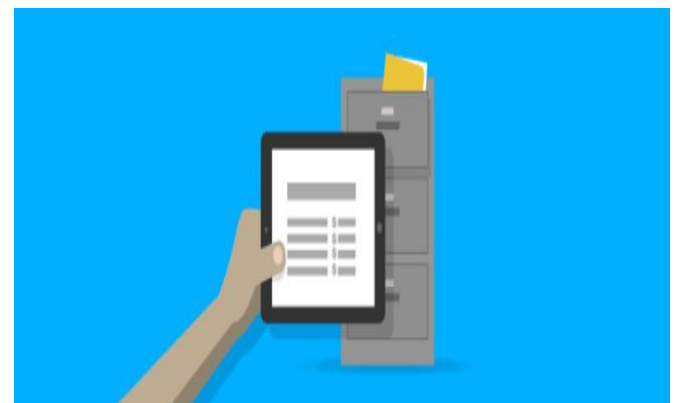
The fact sheet is short and easy to use. For those interested, we will include the PDF in this edition of your newsletter and remember your registered tax agents can help you with your tax.

SOURCE:

www.ato.gov.au/newsroom/smallbusiness

NEW (FINANCIAL) YEAR, NEW YOU!

Release 02nd July 2019



As you gather your records this tax time, think about what has or hasn't worked well over the year. Be sure to make a new financial year resolution for your record keeping practices that's easy to stick to!

Top tips for record keeping success:

- > Maintain separate business and personal records. For example, have a bank account used only for your business transactions.
- > Keep records for five years (usually from when you lodge your tax return) to prove what you've reported and claimed.
- > Set aside time to regularly review and update your records. This will enable you to spot potential problems sooner.
- > Keep records electronically if you can. Built-in software checks can help you report income and claim expenses correctly.

Remember, applying good record keeping practices now will make it easier next time you lodge. It will also help you track the health of your business.

SOURCE:

www.ato.gov.au/newsroom/smallbusiness

SINGLE TOUCH PAYROLL



Release 02nd July 2019

As you may have read in our last edition of this newsletter, the Single Touch Payroll (STP) is now in effect. From the 01st July 2019, small employers and business owners need to report their tax and super information to the ATO through Single Touch Payroll (STP)

Earlier this month, the ATO held a free webinar about STP quarterly reporting concessions. You may be eligible for a quarterly reporting concession if you are:

- > A micro employer (1-4 employees)
- > Seasonal employer
- > An employer with closely held payees, such as directors, family members, trust beneficiaries or shareholders of a business.

For more information on concessional reporting please visit the ATO website:

<https://www.ato.gov.au/business/single-touch-payroll/concessional-reporting/micro-employers/>

SOURCE: www.ato.gov.au/business/single-touch-payroll



FIRST AID COURSES FOR
DRIVING INSTRUCTORS

CALL: 03 5415 0215



Small business Home-based business expenses

This information will help you if you are a small business owner claiming deductions for the costs of using your home as your principal place of business – whether you use a registered tax agent or lodge your own tax return.

Key points

- The types of expenses you can claim depend on how you operate your business out of your home.
- You can only claim deductions for the portion of your expenses that relate to running your business.
- You must keep records for at least five years to show that your business incurred the expenses and how you calculated your claim.
- If you sell your home, there may be capital gains tax (CGT) implications.
- If you do some work from home but it is not your main place of business, see ato.gov.au/workingfromhome

i If you are entitled to goods and services tax (GST) input tax credits, you must claim your deduction in your income tax return at the GST exclusive amount.

Business structure

Your business structure affects your entitlements and obligations when claiming deductions for your home-based business expenses.



Sole traders and partnerships

If you operate your business as a sole trader or partnership, you can claim a deduction for the costs of running your business from home.

There are two types of expenses for your home-based business – running expenses and occupancy expenses. Whether you can claim running expenses only, or both running and occupancy expenses, depends on whether you have an area of your home set aside as a 'place of business'.

Running expenses

Running expenses are the increased costs from using your home's facilities for your business, for example:

- the costs of using a room (such as heating, cooling and lighting)
- cleaning costs
- landline phone and internet costs
- decline in value (depreciation) of your business furniture and equipment
- costs of repairs to your business equipment.

You can claim running expenses if you run your business from home, such as in a separate study or a desk in a lounge room, even if it doesn't have the character of a 'place of business'.

Calculating your claim

To calculate the running expenses of your home-based business, you can use one of the methods described below or any other method as long as:

- it is reasonable in your circumstances
- you exclude your normal (private) living costs
- you have records to show how you calculated the business expense.

Heating, cooling and lighting

- If you have an area set aside for your business, you can split your heating, cooling and electricity bills based on the proportion of the floor area of your home that you use for your business and proportion of the year that you used it for business.
- Alternatively, you can use a fixed rate of 52 cents an hour for each hour that you operate your business from home – based on either your actual use or pattern of use. This covers heating, cooling, lighting, cleaning, and the decline in value of furniture and furnishings (you need to work out other expenses separately).

i You can claim some expenses based on your 'pattern of use', which you can work out by keeping a diary for a representative four-week period each financial year. If you can't show a regular pattern, you need to keep detailed records.

Home phone and internet

- For home (landline) phones, you can claim your business calls and a portion of the line rental costs.
- For internet expenses, you can claim the proportion of time or data you used your internet for business uses.
- You can calculate the business portion of your home phone and internet using an itemised account or pattern of use.

Decline in value (depreciation) of business assets

- You don't separately claim the depreciation of your home-based business furniture and furnishings if you claim running expenses using the fixed rate of 52 cents per hour, as this is included in this rate.
- You can use the instant asset write-off to deduct the full cost of business assets that cost less than the threshold that applied when it was first used or installed and ready for use, see ato.gov.au/instantassetwriteoff
- If you use assets for both personal and business use, you can separate your business depreciation expenses from personal based on your pattern of use.



Sole traders and partnerships (continued)



Occupancy expenses

Occupancy expenses are the expenses that you pay to own or rent your home, for example:

- mortgage interest or rent
- land taxes
- council rates
- house and contents insurance.

You can only claim occupancy expenses if the area of your house set aside for your business has the character of a 'place of business' (including if most of your business is conducted online). Indicators that the area of your home that you've set aside is a place of business include:

- ✔ clearly identifiable as a place of business (such as a sign at the front of your house)
- ✔ not easily suitable or adaptable for private or domestic use
- ✔ used exclusively or almost exclusively for your business
- ✔ used regularly for business visits by your clients.

If you're eligible to claim occupancy expenses, you can also claim running expenses.

You usually calculate occupancy expenses based on the proportion of the floor area of your home that is a place of business and proportion of the year it was used for business.



Trusts and companies

If you operate your home-based business as a trust or company the business should have a genuine, market-rate rental contract (or similar agreement) with the owner of the property. This will determine which expenses the business pays for and can claim as a deduction. If there isn't a genuine rental contract, there may be tax implications for you and the business. For more information, see ato.gov.au/Division7A

If you are an employee of the business and the business pays for or reimburses you for some of the costs of running your business from home, you cannot claim a deduction for the expenses in your individual income tax return. Your business will be subject to fringe benefit tax (FBT) if it pays or reimburses you for the expenses.

Certain exemptions and concessions may reduce your FBT liability. You may need to keep additional records. For more information, see ato.gov.au/fbt

i If you earn Personal Services Income (PSI), you may not be able to deduct some occupancy expenses. To find out more visit ato.gov.au/PSI



Capital gains tax (CGT)

If you were entitled to claim occupancy expenses or you own your home and receive rental income from your business, there may be CGT implications when you sell your home. The main residence exemption may not apply for the proportion of your home and the periods that you used it for your business.

For more information, see ato.gov.au/HomeBasedBusinessCGT



Records you need to keep

You need to keep records to substantiate your claims for all of your home-based business expenses. This includes written evidence, tax invoices or receipts for:

- purchase and repairs of furniture and equipment used for your business
- utility bills and cleaning expenses
- mortgage interest, rent, insurance and council rates (if you claim occupancy expenses)
- rental contract between homeowner and business (if you claim occupancy expenses)
- how you separate your business and private use (for example a diary over a representative four-week period or records of how you calculated the percentage of your floor plan dedicated to your business).

Examples



Rocco: plumber

Rocco is a sole trader plumber who doesn't have a dedicated business premises. He travels to his clients' houses each day from home.

He does his bookkeeping in his dining room on a computer that he only uses for his business.

Rocco keeps a diary for four weeks and finds that he spends, on average, two hours a day, five days a week (with four weeks of holidays a year) on his bookkeeping.

Rocco claims:

- ✔ running expenses using the fixed rate of 52 cents per hour for 10 hours a week for 48 weeks (\$249.60)
- ✔ the cost of his computer, as it cost less than \$30,000 (the instant asset threshold that applied at the time he bought and installed it) and depreciation of computer equipment is not covered by the fixed rate.

Rocco cannot claim:

- ✘ occupancy expenses, as he does not have a dedicated area for his business.



Fern: photographer

Fern runs her business – Fern's Photos Pty Ltd – as a company from the home that she owns.

Fern's house has a dedicated studio where she keeps her photography equipment.

Fern's Photos Pty Ltd has a formal rental agreement with Fern to hire the studio for \$500 per month. This covers use of the space and facilities such as electricity. It is consistent with what it would cost the company to hire a similar studio elsewhere.

Fern's Photos Pty Ltd claims:

- ✔ rent paid to Fern
- Fern must report the rental income that she receives from her company in her personal income tax return. She can claim expenses that she incurs in making that income.

There may be CGT implications if Fern sells her house.

i If you're a sole trader with simple tax affairs, you can use the myDeductions tool in the ATO app to record your expenses. For more information, see ato.gov.au/myDeductions

This is a general summary only

For more information, speak with your registered tax agent, or visit ato.gov.au/homebasedbusiness

CHECK BEFORE YOU CLAIM

Release date: 27th July 2019



Dentist visits, Piano lessons, Lego sets. All normal, everyday private expenses...which have also been claimed in the 'other' deductions section of people's tax returns!

Every year the ATO receives a number of, ahem, 'interesting claims' usually reserved for private or personal items that aren't deductible.

When it comes to claiming 'other' deductions, there's no need to guess! Read up on legitimate claims at the ATO website or talk to a registered tax agent.

SOURCE: ATO Facebook Page

Have a ATO related topic you would like to know more about?

Email us at editorial@its.edu.au and we will add it to our next edition.

RECEIVE YOUR FREE
NEWSLETTER DIRECT TO YOUR
EMAIL

REGISTER @:
WWW.ITS.VIC.EDU.AU/NEWSLETTER

TAX TIP

Release date: 24th July 2019



If you're planning to use a tax agent this tax time, check they're registered with the Tax Practitioners Board!

Only registered agents can charge you a fee for preparing and lodging your return. If you agent is registered, you can be sure they have the necessary qualifications, experiences and insurance.

GENERAL BUSINESS INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

BAS DUE DATES FOR EACH QUARTER

| Quarter | Due date |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. July, August and September | 28 October |
| 2. October, November and December | 28 February |
| 3. January, February and March | 28 April |
| 4. April, May and June | 28 July |



PL AND PI INSURANCE PROVIDERS

As last reported, the following brokers can quote you on PL and PI insurance.

FENTON GREEN & CO

T: 1800 642 747

W: <https://www.fentongreen.com.au/>

FOCUS INSURANCE

David can be contacted via the following methods:

E: david@focusinsurance.com.au

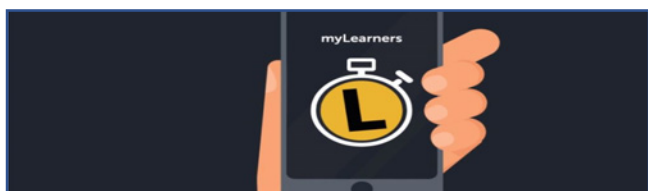
M: 0418 183 798

T: 03 9595 0224

Remember: You do not have to be a member of an association to gain access to PL and PI insurance cover.

VICROADS NEWS AND ROAD RULES UPDATES

myLearners COMMUNITY FACEBOOK PAGE



The myLearners Community Facebook Page has continued to grow this month now with over with 742 members.

Like previous months, this facebook page has seen a increase in the communication between VicRoads, learner drivers, supervising drivers and surprisingly driving instructors! We have noticed that many driving instrcutors around Melbourne are using this Facebook page as an opportunity to engage with potential students.

Casual Observation: It is not for us to suggest how you interact with this site, however, it has been suprising to see some Instructors publicly advertise their business on the site. Whether this is a good or bad thing, is not for us to say,

considering VicRoads created the page for learner and family support, advertising your business may not meet that criteria.

If you are interested in joining this closed Facebook group, simply search for the 'myLearners Community' page on Facebook.



PUSH-PULL OR HAND OVER HAND?

WHAT STEERING METHOD DO YOU TEACH AND WHY?

LET US KNOW: editorial@its.edu.au

MOTORCYCLES IN BUS LANE TRIAL



Before you upload that 'Dash Cam' let it be known 😊 motorcycles were permitted to use Hoddle Street bus lane (southbound), between Eastern Freeway and Victoria Parade on a permanent basis in June 2019.

VicRoads will be expanding the trial to include sections of Victoria Parade and the Eastern Freeway from Wednesday, 24 July 2019.

The new trial sites commencing on 24 July are:

- emergency lane and bus lane along the Eastern Freeway (citybound side of the freeway) between the Chandler Highway and Hoddle Street
- bus lane on Victoria Parade (citybound) between Hoddle Street and Nicholson Street
- Hoddle Street and Victoria Parade intersection

VicRoads introduced safety treatments as part of this trial. You can read more about them on our website.

SOURCE: VicRoads Website

SAFE USE OF TECHNOLOGY DEVICES



The National Transport Commission is asking for feedback on mobile phones and driver distraction.

The purpose of this project is to find a better way to regulate the safe use of technology devices as part of the Australian Road Rules.

Have your say on the matter prior to 21 August 2019.

To provide your feedback, visit the NTC website.

LINK: <https://www.ntc.gov.au/current-projects>



SLOW DOWN FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES



Slowing down for emergency and law enforcement vehicles has been a legal requirement for 2 years.

In that time there have been no deaths or serious injuries to our emergency workers on the road.

Ensure you are fully informed about this road rule by visiting the VicRoads website:

SOURCE: <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au>

ROAD SIGNS



VicRoads has recently updated their road sign page with images of all relevant Victorian road signs, including:

- regulatory signs
- warning signs
- freeway and guide signs
- tourist and service signs.

Check out the new and updated signs by visiting the VicRoads website:

SOURCE: <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au>

EVERY SECOND, ALWAYS ON



Motorcyclists are over-represented in road trauma — they make up less than 4% of registered vehicles, yet riders account for 15% of deaths and serious injuries on our roads.

This short quiz may be worth sharing with your clients or network.

**Take the test.
Know the ride.
Know the road!**

CLICK THE LINK BELOW

http://alwayson.spokes.com.au/?utm_source=VicRoads+mailing+list&utm_campaign=2f36938cc7-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_06_05_03_48_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_df5a301bc3-2f36938cc7-

SOURCE: <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au>

VICROADS REGIONAL INSTRUCTOR NEWS



Extreme weather and poor light can make driving dangerous in the winter months. Make sure you adjust the way you drive by following these steps:

- > Maintain a safe distance to the vehicle in front
- > Reduce your speed and take off a little slower
- > Accelerate smoothly and brake gently
- > Turn the vehicles headlight's on to increase your visibility to other road users (We recommend this year all around!)
- > In fog or snowy conditions, use fog lights instead of setting your headlights on high beam. VicRoads even go on to suggest that if you don't have fog lights you could use your hazard lights with your headlights on low beam...I don't know how this would play out with the police?
- > Check the weather and avoid unnecessary travel in heavy rain, hail or sleet. If you start to lose visibility of the edges of the road find somewhere safe to pull over.
- > Driving in poor weather can be especially tiring so if you are travelling long distances remember to take regular breaks

Be sure to always check your vehicle's safety equipment, tyres, windscreen wipers, battery, lights and brakes.

DO YOU TEACH STUDENTS TO DRIVE IN THE SNOW?

Let us know: editorial@its.edu.au

**VICROADS HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS
FOR 2019**

| Public Holiday | What services are not available |
|---|--|
| 27th Sep 19 AFL Grand Final Friday | VicRoads Call Centre and all Customer Service Centres are closed. |
| 30th Oct 19 | VicRoads Bendigo Customer Service Centre will be closed |
| 05th Nov 19 Melbourne Cup Day | VicRoads Centre and all Customer Service Centres are closed except for Bendigo. |
| 25th Dec 19 Christmas Day | VicRoads Call Centre and all Customer Service Centres are closed. |
| 26th Dec 19 Boxing Day | VicRoads Call Centre and all Customer Service Centres are closed. |

**VICROADS DRIVING INSTRUCTOR
MEETINGS FOR 2019**

Here is a list of known VicRoads driving instructor meetings. As an industry, it is extremely important to support and encourage these meetings.

Please remember to check with your local CSC noticeboard to confirm the time and location of your meeting has not changed before attending.

| DATE | LOCATION | TIME |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| 07 th Aug 19 | Werribee / Hoppers Crossing | 5.00pm |
| 19 th Aug 19 | Bairnsdale | 3.30pm |
| 21 st Aug 19 | Ballarat | 4.45pm |
| 05 th Sep 19 | Geelong | 5.00pm |
| 10 th Sep 19 | Sale | 3.30pm |
| 11 th Sep 19 | Burwood East | 5.00pm |
| 18 th Sep 19 | Broadmeadows | 5.00pm |
| 03 rd Oct 19 | Melton | 5.00pm |
| 09 th Oct 19 | Heatherton | 5.00pm |
| 16 th Oct 19 | Bundoora | 5.00pm |

VICROADS ROADSMART PROGRAM



Cranbourne Racecourse (Turf Club) has recently been added as an approved Road Smart training venue with three sessions already scheduled for September 2019.

If you are interested in becoming an accredited Road Smart trainer, both Intelligent Training Solutions and the ADTAV have upcoming training sessions.

Please refer to the Professional Development section of this newsletter for training time and dates.

ROADSMART ACCREDITED OFF-ROAD PROVIDERS

- > **Intelligent Training Solutions Pty Ltd**
PH: 03 5415 0209 or 1300 585 866
W: <https://www.its.edu.au>
E: roadsmart@its.vic.edu.au
- > **Icon Drive Services**
PH: 0414 950 833 (Rita Waters)
W: <http://icondrive.com.au/>
E: info@icondrive.com.au
- > **ADTAV**
PH: (03) 9887 8074 (Jenny Ravlic)
W: www.adtav.org.au
E: info@adtav.org.au

The accredited providers listed above have off-road training venues utilised by the Road Smart program for the delivery of the practical driving component. If you are interested in working on

this program, contact the accredited providers listed above.

VICROADS TESTING CENTRES

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Your contribution to this section will determine its success. If you have any information about your local VicRoads office that would be beneficial for visiting or local instructors to know, please email us at editorial@its.edu.au

Your VICROADS testing offices are:

- VicRoads Ararat
- VicRoads Bairnsdale
- VicRoads Ballarat
- VicRoads Benalla
- VicRoads Bendigo
- VicRoads Broadmeadows
- VicRoads Bundoora
- VicRoads Burwood
- VicRoads Carlton
- VicRoads Cobram
- VicRoads Colac
- VicRoads Dandenong
- VicRoads Dromana
- VicRoads Echuca
- VicRoads Frankston
- VicRoads Geelong
- VicRoads Hamilton
- VicRoads Heatherton
- VicRoads Hoppers Crossing
- VicRoads Horsham
- VicRoads Kyneton
- VicRoads Leongatha
- VicRoads Melton
- VicRoads Mooroolbark (Appointments Only)
- VicRoads Morwell
- VicRoads Pakenham
- VicRoads Portland
- VicRoads Sale
- VicRoads Seymour
- VicRoads Shepparton
- VicRoads Swan Hill
- VicRoads Wangaratta
- VicRoads Warragul
- VicRoads Warrnambool
- VicRoads Werribee (Appointments Only)
- VicRoads Wodonga

A **BIG thank you** to Adrienne from PC PLUS Driving School for her contribution to this list, and a humble apology to the staff and driving instructors at VicRoads Horsham for not adding them to the list in our last edition.

If we have missed any testing stations in this list, please let us know. This newsletter is run by volunteers and its accuracy maintained by its contributors.

TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS SECTION EMAIL:
editorial@its.edu.au



VICTORIAN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FOR 2019

Victoria School Holidays 2019

| School Holidays | Starts | Finishes |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Spring Holidays | 21 Sep 19 | 06 Oct 19 |
| Summer Holidays | 21 Dec 19 | 28 Jan 20 |

WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED ON FACEBOOK THIS MONTH



Driver Trainers of Australia
Group
271 members
Joined

As driving instructors, we can become isolated in our jobs, only speaking to our students and the occasional VicRoads LTO.

Speaking from experience, I remember when I was a full-time instructor, starting at 7am and finishing at 7pm, I would cram as many lessons and drive tests in the working day leaving absolutely no time for socialising with my peers.

For those of you not a part of the **Driver Trainers of Australia** Facebook group, here are some of the post you may have missed through the month of June/July.

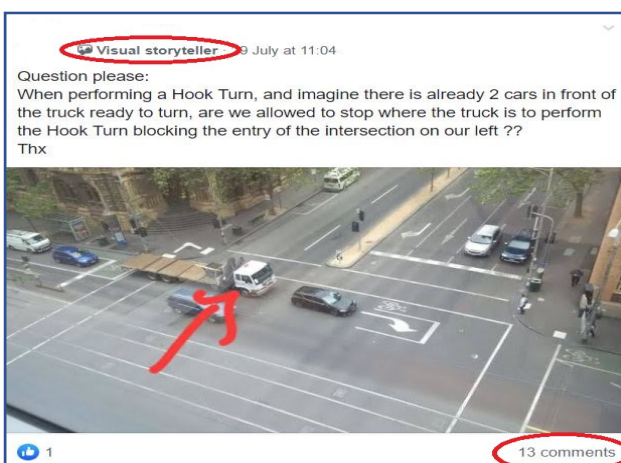
PLEASE NOTE: We have removed the identity of the people who posted these comments.



is looking for recommendations.
26 July at 14:15


Hi all
I'm looking for tyre recommendations as I need to replace a set of 4 Kumho tyres that won't make past 40,000km leaving my hard earned \$\$\$ on the road.
Compared to the 2 previous sets of Continental tyres I had on the car that each averaged 80,000km, the Kumho brand has been very disappointing and left me feeling like I've been ripped off.... See more

22 comments



Visual storyteller July at 11:04

Question please:
When performing a Hook Turn, and imagine there is already 2 cars in front of the truck ready to turn, are we allowed to stop where the truck is to perform the Hook Turn blocking the entry of the intersection on our left ??
Thx



1
13 comments



18 July at 16:07

Has anyone heard of a new rule from VicRoads that dash cams have to be actually removed from the windscreen before a test?

37 comments

Like Comment



26 July at 16:27

Keys2drive....money making scam or great idea ?
(I know what it is and give the lessons)
Thoughts please on the implementation of it.

3
34 comments

Like



shared a link.
26 July at 07:10

This whole situation smells a lot like driving schools that refuse to pay compulsory super.



BRISBANETIMES.COM.AU
If you can't afford to pay workers, you shouldn't be in business

and 7 others
5 comments

Like Comment

INTERESTING NOTE

In the month of July, the Driver Trainers of Australia Facebook page had a total of **51 threads** posted by its members which lead to an amazing 378 post engagements (conversations)...Well done to the Driver Trainers of Australia!

Remember, this group is open to all driving instructors across Australia. If you are interested in joining this group, simply search for the 'Driver Trainers of Australia' on Facebook.



KEYS2DRIVE SOCIAL NEWS



CALL OUR FOR VOLUNTEER MENTORS TO HELP LEARNER DRIVERS HIT THE ROAD.

Regional Road Victoria (RRV) is calling out for volunteers to help get young drivers on the road.

RRV North Eastern Regional Director Steve Bowmaker said there's currently high demand for the TAC L2P program which matches mentors with young learner drivers who don't have access to a supervising driver or vehicle.

Volunteer mentors are the driving force behind this dynamic program," Mr Bowmaker said.

It's through their efforts that learners can reach the 120 hours required to attain their Ps.

By achieving their licence goals, learners are then able to connect with educational, vocational and social opportunities that may not otherwise have been available to them.

For Wangaratta-based volunteer mentor David James, the many hours spent on the road with his mentee Nick Richards resulted not only in a successful licence test but a firm friendship too.

Nick is the second learner I've worked with and I've really enjoyed being part of the program, Mr James said.

I'd encourage anyone with some time on their hands to volunteer as a supervising driver, it's

really rewarding and a great way to help out young people.

Across RRV's North Eastern Region, TAC L2P can be accessed in Alpine Shire, Benalla Rural City, Indigo Shire, Mansfield Shire, Mitchell Shire, Moira Shire, Murrindindi Shire, Greater Shepparton, Strathbogie Shire, Wangaratta Rural City and City of Wodonga.

Offered state-wide, TAC L2P has helped over 5,000 learners obtain their probationary licence and mentors have supervised over 458,000 hours of driving.

Funded by the TAC and managed by the Department of Transport Community Programs team, L2P is free for eligible young people.



More information about the program can be found by visiting the [L2P page](#).

KEYS2DRIVE INSTRUCTOR NEWS

Release 11th July 2019

If you are registered as a Key2Drive instructor, by now you may have received the updated Keys2drive Road Maps.



WHO CAN BECOME A KEYS2DRIVE ACCREDITED DRIVING INSTRUCTOR?

Any accredited driving instructor can register themselves to become an accredited Keys2Drive trainer. There is NO charge to complete the registration training and the whole course is completed online. From start to finish, the entire accreditation process should ideally take 3 to 6 weeks depending on the individual.

For more information on becoming accredited with Keys2Drive visit their website: <https://www.keys2drive.com.au/how-to-get-accredited> or call them on 1800 696 929.

COMMERCIAL PASSENGER VEHICLES VICTORIA (CPVV) NEWS

CPVV CELEBRATES 1ST YEAR ANNIVERSARY

This week the CPVV is celebrating their first anniversary and looking over the milestones and collaborations that have occurred during the past year.

Since commencing as Commercial Passenger Vehicles Victoria, the CPVV has accredited over 21,000 new taxi drivers, registered more than 25,000 new commercial passenger vehicles and registered nearly 70 Booking Service Providers.

This has made it easier for people to enter the taxi industry, operate independently and provided more choice for drivers and passengers.

The CPVV also opened the Multi-Purpose Taxi Program (MPTP) to the market so that MPTP members have more choice on who they can travel with; introduced incident reporting for all industry participants with safety duties, to improve safety outcomes for drivers and passengers; and we're also about to launch our Monitoring, Compliance and Enforcement Policy, that will detail our compliance plan/approach and activities moving forward.

The CPVV expects 2019/20 will be an equally big and challenging year. They will continue to engage and collaborate with their stakeholders on matters that help keep commercial passenger

vehicle industry participants and customers safe – such as fatigue management, safer and easier use of electronic dispatch systems and vehicle safety inspections. The CPVV will also be launching two new codes of practice in this first quarter. These will provide practical information and guidance to help taxi industry participants meet their regulatory requirements – safety duties in particular.

TRANSPORT ACCIDENT COMMISSION (TAC) NEWS

NEW TAC INITIATIVE URGES VICTORIA TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST DRIVER DISTRACTION



The Transport Accident Commission has launched a new initiative encouraging Victorians to activate their smartphone's 'Do Not Disturb While Driving' function when behind the wheel.

The #DNDWhileDriving initiative, which comes off the back of the TAC's recently launched distracted driving campaign, features a series of light-hearted instructional videos, showing drivers how to activate 'Do Not Disturb While Driving' - a simple and impactful way to curb mobile phone distractions on the roads.

Australian comedians Sam Simmons and Aaron Chen have thrown their support behind the initiative and will help engage Victorians on the issue of driver distraction, and show just how simple it is to activate the 'Do Not Disturb While Driving' function.

In their videos, the duo is shown activating the function on their own phones, and having fun creating their own personalised 'Do Not Disturb' auto-response messages throughout.

While the #DNDWhileDriving initiative takes a playful approach to tackling driver distraction, it is born from an urgent need to address a serious problem on our state's roads.

A recent TAC survey of 1,742 road users showed a third of license holders aged 18 to 60 years admitted to using their mobile phones illegally while driving.

TAC Senior Manager Engagement Meg Jacobs said the new initiative encouraged the community to work together to tackle driver distraction - one of the most complex road safety challenges faced by today's road users.

"So far, 2019 has been a tragic year on our roads and we know that mobile phone distraction is a major factor causing death and serious injuries," Ms Jacobs said.

"Just a two second glance at your phone in a 50 kilometre zone could mean travelling blind for 28 metres," she said.

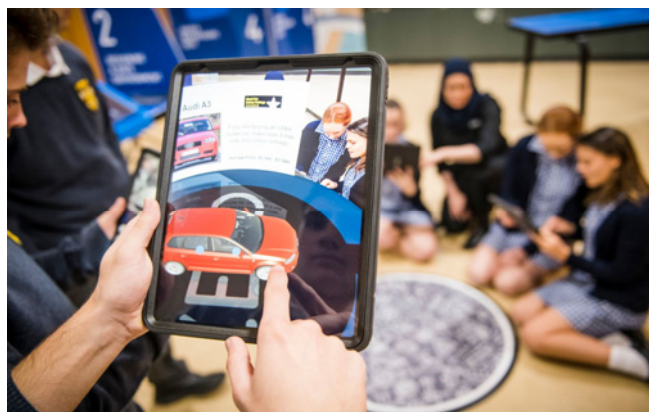
"Addressing road safety issues requires a comprehensive approach, but we want to show Victorians that there are simple things they can do right now to help make our roads safer," she added.

The TAC will bring #DNDWhileDriving to life on Saturday 20 July via a "Donut Disturb" promotion in the Melbourne CBD. Visitors can attend the activation between 11AM and 2PM at South Bank Spillway, where anyone who activates their 'Do Not Disturb While Driving' mode will receive a free donut.

To find out how to create your very own Do Not Disturb auto-response message, search Transport Accident Commission (TAC) on Facebook and @tacvictoria on Instagram.

Join the conversation! Share a screenshot of your personalised 'Do Not Disturb' message using #DNDWhileDriving, for your chance to win Gold Class cinema tickets.

SAFETY MESSAGE TO REACH REGIONAL VICTORIAN SCHOOLS



Regional Victoria's next generation of drivers will have access to a world-leading road safety education experience with the launch of a new in-school program.

The Road to Zero regional in-school program is a mobile version of the Road to Zero road safety education complex at Melbourne Museum and will visit schools in isolated parts of the state.

The program features highly interactive and immersive technology to engage students on road safety, human vulnerability and ways young people can reduce their personal risk before they get their driver's license.

Over the past five years, 20 per cent of drivers who died on regional Victorian roads were aged 18 to 25 – despite making up only around 10 per cent of licence holders.

The free road safety program will be available to schools located more than a two-hour drive from Melbourne that are not able to visit the permanent Road to Zero complex.

Primarily targeting years 9, 10 and 11 students, the mobile Road to Zero program will engage with more than 5000 secondary school students from regional and remote Victoria each year. The program focuses on the role of speed in crashes, the importance of safety technology in vehicles and safe road infrastructure as well as human vulnerability and personal risk.

Museums Victoria will deliver the regional in-school program and, as well as the interactive educational experience, students will complete practical activities that address health and science curriculums.

Road to Zero, and the \$55 million education complex at Melbourne Museum is part of the Victorian Government's \$146 million Young Driver Safety Package.

So far this year, more than 45,000 people have visited the Road to Zero, which is free and open to the public. This includes more than 3000 secondary school students and more than 1700 younger children and their parents as part of school holiday programs.

To find out more about Road to Zero visit the website: www.roadtozero.vic.gov.au

SOURCE: <https://www.tac.vic.gov.au/>



INDUSTRY NEWS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA!

LEARNER DRIVER MENTOR PROGRAM NEWS



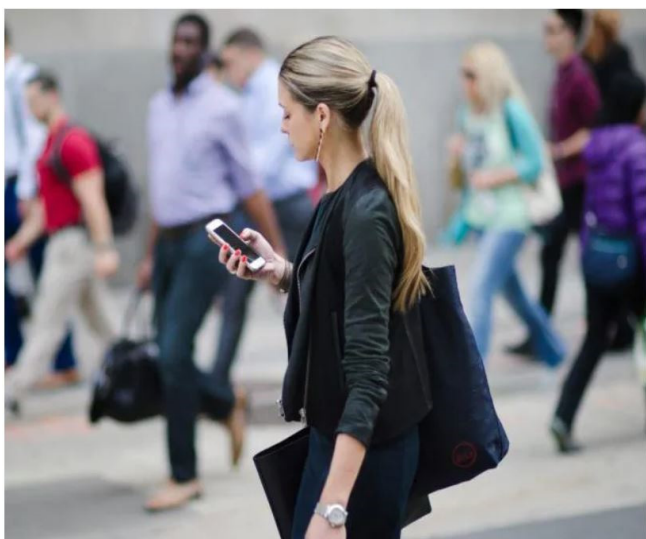
In May, Emma facilitated a workshop for coordinators of The Salvation Army's *Drive for Life* Learner Driver Mentor Program. The Salvation Army runs a number of programs across NSW and Queensland. The programs across the two states all vary slightly in their approach and services offered, but they are all there to achieve one goal – helping young people in need to get their drivers licence, giving them access to employment and education opportunities, road safety skills and experience, as well as a much needed confidence boost.

Emma will also be heading down the south coast later this month to Narooma to run a workshop for volunteer mentors and also closer to home in Redfern, as part of our work with the Driver Licencing Access Programs (DLAP), thanks to a Transport for NSW Community Road Safety Grant.

For more information on who YouthSafe are and what they are doing, please visit their website: <https://youthsafe.org/>

SOURCE: Youthsafe

RENEWED CALLS FOR PEDESTRIANS TO BE FINED \$200 FOR LOOKING AT THEIR PHONES



Mr Scruby said pedestrians are crossing the road while distracted every single day. Picture: iStock. Source: iStock

There have been renewed calls for the Australian government to introduce a \$200 fine for pedestrians who cross the road while using their phone.

The Pedestrian Council of Australia is pushing for the fine to be introduced, claiming using your phone while walking can be just as dangerous as a driver using their phone behind the wheel.

The aim of the \$200 fine is to deter pedestrians from doing things like listening to music or texting when crossing the road as it can have very serious consequences.

Chairman of the Pedestrian Council of Australia, Harold Scruby, recently told *9 News* that ideally the penalty would be introduced nationally and would be titled "cross road while distracted".

Under the new proposal, pedestrians would receive the fine even if they were crossing on a green pedestrian light.

There are already some fines in place for pedestrians that fail to obey the road rules.

Crossing within 20 metres of a pedestrian crossing, failing to obey traffic lights and failing to give way all result in a \$81 fine.

This isn't the first time the organisation has called for this type of fine to be introduced.

Last year Mr Scruby told news.com.au that crossing the road while distracted is a dangerous act that people are rarely punished for.

SOURCE: <https://www.news.com.au>

FATIGUE MANAGEMENT WHAT DO YOU TEACH?

Let us know at editorial@its.edu.au

VICTORIA ROAD SAFETY OFFICE TO OPEN ON AUGUST 1



SAFETY FOCUS: After a spike in road deaths in Victoria, a new dedicated safety office is to open on August 1. Picture: I spy

A DEDICATED office of road safety opens in Victoria on August 1 to focus the state's efforts on tackling its road toll.

Road Safety Victoria will merge the road safety functions of VicRoads and the Department of Transport and centralise the work previously undertaken by these agencies.

Road Safety Victoria will work closely with all road safety partners, made up of Victoria Police, the Transport Accident Commission, VicRoads, the Department of Transport, the Department of Justice and Regulation and the Department of

Health and Human Services to develop strategies and programs to reduce Victoria's road toll.

VicRoads Chief Executive Robyn Seymour will be the inaugural Head of Road Safety Victoria.

Ms Seymour has been working in road trauma prevention for the last 19 years. She began her career as a road trauma counsellor before moving to VicRoads where she has been an influential leader for more than a decade. She is passionate about road safety and delivering safer outcomes for the community.

As well as helping coordinate the delivery of the Towards Zero Strategy, Road Safety Victoria, in conjunction with other road safety partners, will develop road safety policies, coordinate programs and campaigns, and support the development of the Labor Government's next road safety strategy.

After a record low number of lives lost in 2018, it has been a tragic year so far on Victorian roads. There have already been 153 deaths this year, compared with 100 at the same time last year. Much of the increase has happened on regional Victoria roads, where 92 people have been killed, compared with 51 at the same time in 2018. More than two-thirds of those died within 30km of their home.

Regional Victorians will have the opportunity to share and hear ideas on how to improve road safety in their area at a series of community forums to be held across the state in the coming months.

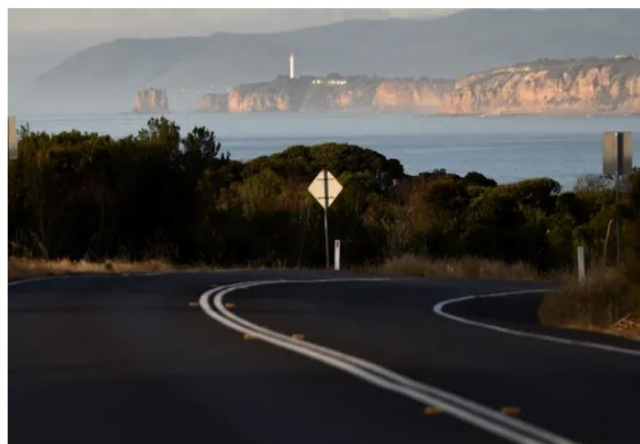
Eight road safety forums will be held during July, August and September, with forums to be held in Ballarat, Marysville, Shepparton, Sale, Geelong, Portland, Bendigo and Mildura. The first forum will be in Ballarat on July 10.

The forums will be attended by road safety experts, local government and community leaders who will look at the reasons behind the disproportionate number of country road deaths and how to prevent this senseless loss of life.

For more information, including dates and locations of forums, visit tac.vic.gov.au/regional-road-safety-forum

SOURCE: <https://www.bigrigs.com.au/>

VICTORIA URGED TO LOWER SPEED LIMITS AS ROAD DEATH TOLL JUMPS 50%



▲ There have been 93 deaths on rural Victorian roads this year, compared with 52 at this time last year.
Photograph: Tracey Nearmy/AAP

State government's new road safety office is likely to implement some measures for country roads

As per our previous article, we now know that the Victorian government is setting up a new road safety office amid a spiralling number of fatalities this year but there are doubts about whether lawmakers have the political courage to cut speed limits.

The problem of road deaths on country roads is likely to be a big focus of the new organisation.

Figures from the Transport Accident Commission show there have been 93 deaths on rural Victorian roads this year, compared with 52 at this time last year.

Centre for Accident Research and Safety expert Narelle Haworth said rural roads should ideally have 80km/h speed limits unless they were built with specific safety features to merit a higher limit.

"Realistically there isn't enough money to upgrade them to a good level quickly. If your

road infrastructure isn't good, you've got to bring down the speed limit," she said.

The chance of dying on a rural road in Australia was three times more than on urban roads, and law enforcement was more difficult because of low volumes and resources, she said.

We shouldn't look at 100km/h as the default. 100 should only be if the road is good enough, Haworth said.

High speed limits were safe only if the roads had centre and side barriers, a good surface and alignment.

Haworth acknowledged that cutting speed limits would upset rural residents and could prove unpopular, but said drivers were failing to understand the extent to which speed increased safety risks.

"Improving the roads costs money, bringing speed limits down costs votes, and that is fundamentally why it isn't being done," she said.

To read the full article, visit:
<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/jun/29/victoria-urged-to-lower-speed-limits-as-road-death-toll-jumps-50>

SOURCE: <https://www.theguardian.com>

ROADSIDE DRUG TESTING IN AUSTRALIA (2018)

The National Drug Driving Working Group (NDDWG) is a cross-jurisdictional working group established in late 2017 to progress the development of best practice approaches towards drug testing in Australia.

The work of the NDDWG contributes to the implementation of Priority Action 5 of the National Road Safety Action Plan 2018-2020.

The Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE) has developed a Roadside Drug Testing dashboard in collaboration with members of the NDDWG.

The interactive Roadside Drug Testing dashboard allows users to view information relating to the number of roadside drug tests per 10,000 licences per jurisdiction and also highlights:

- > number of roadside drug tests conducted by jurisdiction;
- > positive results returned; and
- > number of road deaths involving an illegal drug (based on information available).

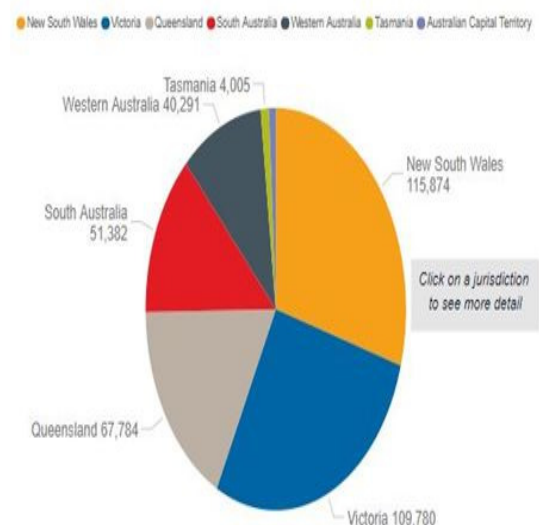
Enforcement data is provided to BITRE by the state and territory police for reporting and monitoring our performance against the National Road Safety Strategy and updated annually

Roadside Drug Testing in 2018 Australia

392,444

Number of roadside drug tests in 2018*

Roadside drug tests by jurisdiction*



UPCOMING INDUSTRY CONFERENCES



WHEN: 25th to 27th September 2019

LOCATION: Adelaide

COST: Ranges between \$880 to \$1,650 plus accommodation.

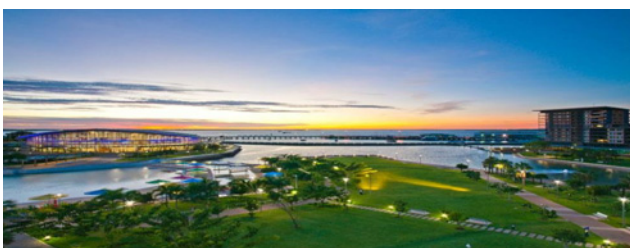
If you are yet to visit the beautiful city of Adelaide, then the 2019 Australasian Road Safety Conference (ARSC2019) is the conference for you!

2019 TRANZnet CONFERENCE



This year's TRANZnet conference will be hosted in Darwin, NT.

With a strong emphasis on networking and Heavy Vehicle driver training, this year's conference offers great opportunities for all. Keep up to date on the latest RTO and trainer / assessor requirements.



TRANZnet Association Inc.
2019 Annual Conference
Darwin, N.T.

WHEN: 09th October to 11th October 2019

LOCATION: Darwin, NT

COST: Ranges from \$160 to \$460

WEBSITE: <https://www.tranznet.org/>

2019 ADTAV ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 26TH AND 27TH

The Australian Driver Trainers Association (Victoria) will also be holding their annual driving instructors conference, scheduled for October 26th and 27th of 2019.

More information will be provided on this conference once it becomes available.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



ROAD SMART TRAINING

Intelligent Training Solutions and the ADTAV together with VicRoads will be hosting a series of Road Smart training sessions for any instructor waiting to become an accredited off-road Road Smart instructor.

This is a great Professional Development opportunity and creates a new range of work for your business. Lunch will be provided to you on the day.

SESSION 1

WHEN: Friday 09th August 2019

WHERE: Cranbourne Racecourse

HOST: Intelligent Training Solutions

TIME: 08:30am to 4.30pm

COST: **FREE**

REGISTER: info@its.edu.au

SESSION 2

WHEN: Wednesday 11th September 2019

WHERE: Stawell Airport in Stawell

HOST: ADTAV

TIME: 08:30am to 4.30pm

COST: **FREE**

REGISTER: roadsmart@adtav.org.au

INDUSTRY COURSES – UPCOMING COURSES

CAR DRIVING INSTRUCTOR COURSE



TLI41218 Certificate IV in Transport & Logistics (Road Transport – Car Driving Instructor Course)

WHEN: Term 3 enrolments NOW OPEN

For more information visit our website

www.its.edu.au

HEAVY VEHICLE INSTRUCTOR COURSE



TLI41318 Certificate IV in Transport & Logistics (Road Transport – Heavy Vehicle Driving Instructor Course)

WHEN: Term 3 enrolments NOW OPEN

For more information visit our website

www.its.edu.au

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



If you are a driving school and require a qualified driving instructor to join your team, send us an email and we will advertise here **for FREE!**

Email: editorial@its.edu.au

HEAD OF OFFICE OF ROAD SAFETY



Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Cities and Regional
Development

Position Vacancy

(Office officially launched 01 July 2019. Applications close Thursday 8 August 2019)

A vacancy for a key position in road safety management in Australia's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development has now been advertised:

- > Head of Office of Road Safety
- > SES Band 1
- > Base salary starting from \$199,653 per year plus 15.4% superannuation.
- > Closing date Thursday, 8 August 2019

CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THIS NEWSLETTER?

This newsletter serves to tie our industry together, therefore we would love to hear from you.

We are looking for newsletter ideas, contributions, news and industry related stories to share with the driver training community.

As part of this newsletter we would also love to share influential and inspiring stories of success. If you have a story to share or would like us to interview an influential and inspiring instructor please let us know by emailing us at editorial@its.edu.au

Your industry would love to hear from you!

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Support your industry newsletter while building awareness of your products and services!

We need your support! Our aim is to provide this newsletter **FREE** of charge to ALL Victorian Driving Instructors across all our regions.

We have **four** focal points intended for this publication. They are:

1. To provide instructors from all regions with the latest industry news relevant to their area of operation from key stakeholder and industry representatives.
2. To keep instructors up-to-date on the latest training tips and techniques used across the country and overseas.
3. To provide small business owners (driving instructors) with a source of information and general advice on growing their business within their community.
4. To remain a FREE publication. We want to see this newsletter made available to all instructors.

You can help by advertising your services or products with us.

For advertising rates email us at:
editorial@its.edu.au

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Business Directory

EDUCATION PROVIDERS

Academy of Road Safety.....1300 667 623
Advanced Community College.....03 5986 4623
AITAC Pty Ltd.....03 5428 6077
Australian Academy of Further
Education.....03 5428 4185
Box Hill Institute.....03 9286 9188
**Intelligent Training
Solutions.....1300 585 866**

INDUSTRY CONTACTS

Australasian College of Road Safety
(ACRS).....(02) 6290 2509
Australian Driver Trainers Association
(Victoria).....(03) 8393 9387
Focus Insurance Brokers.....(03) 9595 0224
Frank's Engineering
(Dual Control Installer).....(03) 9354 0400
VicRoads.....13 11 71

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The deadline for all submissions is the 15th of the month, for publication in the following month newsletter (expect December).

Where possible, articles should be in an unformatted Word document and emailed to:
editorial@its.edu.au

Alternatively, submissions can be posted to:

**IN THE PASSENGER SEAT
PO BOX 322
RIDDELLS CREEK, VIC 3431**

The contributor's name, address and contact number must accompany each submission.

SUBMISSION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs should be supplied as a JPEG or PNG file and emailed to editorial@its.edu.au

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