

2025–26 State Budget

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP

Minister for Veterans

5 June 2025



Families,
Fairness
and Housing

Portfolio overview

The Veterans portfolio supports and improves outcomes for veterans and their families by:

- › Advocating for improved veterans' wellbeing and entitlements with the Commonwealth and working across the Victorian Government to support veterans.
- › Increasing community awareness of veterans' contributions and service through commemoration and community projects.
- › Supporting veterans' employment in their transition to civilian life.
- › Supporting the ex-service sector and community groups through grant programs.
- › Delivering the Victorian Government's unwavering support for Anzac Day and Remembrance Day events across the state.



Key achievements over the past 12 months

Over the past 12 months, the Veterans portfolio has:

- › Continued the rollout of the Veterans Card – Victoria which now has more than **20,100** veterans registered.
- › Achieved the expanded target of more than **1,800** veterans employed in the Victorian public sector.
- › Delivered grants totalling **\$2.6 million** to support **88** projects for the veteran and ex-service community.
- › Completed **2** study tours to Türkiye, including Gallipoli, with **24** students for the Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize.
- › Led Victoria's engagement with the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide and work with the Commonwealth on responding to the recommendations.



Continuing to invest in Victoria's veterans

- › The 2025-26 Victorian State Budget delivers **\$2.4 million** over 2 years to boost support for the Shrine of Remembrance – safeguarding its vital role as the heart of commemoration in Victoria and ensuring it remains a place of reflection, education and honour for generations to come.
- › In addition, an investment of **\$0.8 million** over 2 years will continue targeted employment supports for veterans, including:
 - › Extending the Public Sector Veteran Employment Strategy with a new target to employ a further **500** veterans in the Victorian public sector over the next 2 years.
 - › Continuing the role of the Veteran Employment Advocate.

Honouring Victorian veterans' service



Approximately

50,000

people attended Anzac Day 2025
Dawn Service at the Shrine



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