

Other useful contacts for carers

Carers Victoria

The statewide voice for family carers, providing information and referral, support and counselling, carer workshops, policy and research.

1800 242 636

www.carersvictoria.org.au

Commonwealth Carer Respite and Carelink Centres

Providing local information and support to access respite.

1800 052 052

Centrelink

For enquiries about Carer Payment or Carer Allowance.

Tel: 13 27 17

www.centrelink.gov.au

Working Carers Gateway

A website for people who are juggling working and caring roles.

www.workingcarers.org.au

To more information about accessing the **Victoriaworks carers returning to work grants** please contact:

Peter Macdonald or Jan Healey at

OTWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

6 Murray Street (PO Box 382), Colac, 3250

T: (03) 5231 9500

F: (03) 5231 1813



E: otwaycommunitycollege@occ.vic.edu.au

www.otwaycommunitycollege.vic.edu.au

Or your closest participating provider

For more information about **Community Colleges Victoria** and to find your closest Community College go to www.communitycolleges.vic.edu.au



Victoriaworks for carers returning to work is funded by the Victorian Government.

Victoriaworks for carers returning to work

*Helping carers to
rejoin the workforce*

Information for carers



Thinking of returning to work?

Have you been absent from the paid workforce or from education and training for more than two years ***and caring for someone:***

- with a disability
- with a mental illness
- with an illness or chronic health issue
- who is aged?

*If so, you may be eligible for a **Victoriaworks carers returning to work grant***

Many carers who have been out of the workforce for several years because of their caring duties can experience a loss of confidence about their skills and their ability to engage in paid employment.

The **Victoriaworks for carers returning to work** is a grant program that can help carers who need support to update their existing skills or who are seeking to train for other areas of paid employment.

How the grants work

Community Colleges and other Adult Community Education providers are able to apply for grants of up to \$1000 per eligible carer to cover any costs associated with approved training such as books and materials, course fees, transport, childcare and respite care.

Participating Community Colleges and Adult Community Education organisations will support each carer to identify their work aspirations, training needs, a training provider, the costs involved and an appropriate budget.

They can also arrange or provide referrals to support services such as:

- Carer support networks
- Study groups
- Vocational information and advice
- Complementary training, such as study techniques, time management and advice on balancing study, work and family/caring needs.

How to apply

1. Contact your nearest participating Community College or Adult Community Education provider. You can find them by going to www.communitycolleges.vic.edu.au or by calling Otway Community College on (03) 5231 9500

2. You will be given or sent an application form to complete and return. This form will assess your eligibility to receive a grant. To be eligible you must have been absent from the paid workforce or from education and training for more than two years while you cared for someone:

- with a disability
- with a mental illness
- with an illness or chronic health issue
- who is aged

3. If you are eligible, you will be given a Statutory Declaration to complete and return to the participating provider. You will then be able to access the grant for your training needs.