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State Schools' Relief

Year 7 2018 CSEF Uniform Support

Fact sheet for schools

Introduction to State Schools' Relief

State Schools' Relief (SSR) works closely with all government schools across Victoria. Each year SSR assists families who are experiencing financial disadvantage with school clothing, shoes and other essential items.

SSR is only able to respond to requests from schools and does not engage directly with parents. Parents are encouraged to talk to their school principal, assistant principal or school wellbeing officer so that school staff can assess a parent's or child's needs and their eligibility for assistance.

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

The Victorian Government has implemented [Education State initiatives](#) that aim to break the link between disadvantage and achievement. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) was established in 2015 to provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports days and excursions. To find out more about CSEF go to: www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/finance/Pages/csefschools.aspx

SSR has received additional government funding so that it can help more families needing financial assistance and ensure no one is left behind. This extra funding is being used by SSR to assist Prep and Year 7 students in government schools who receive CSEF assistance.

CSEF 2018 Year 7 Uniform Pack

In 2018 every Year 7 government school student who is a recipient of CSEF automatically qualifies to receive a uniform pack that will be provided through SSR.

If a student receives CSEF assistance and is in Year 6 in 2017 parents can apply for a uniform pack to be provided by SSR. This must be done through the secondary school where the student is enrolled for 2018.

SSR ask that schools assist parents by checking if their child receive, or are eligible for, the CSEF.

For eligible students the school then applies for uniform assistance from SSR on the parents' behalf.

Applications for the CSEF Year 7 Uniform Pack are now open to families via the secondary school where their child will be attending in 2018.

What is in the Year 7 Uniform Pack?

The uniform pack includes basic uniform items needed to start secondary school.

For Year 7 students commencing in 2018 the uniform pack contains:

- 1 x Jumper
- 1 x Pair Shoes (Lace ups OR T-Bars OR Sneakers)
- Summer Dress OR Trousers & Shirt OR Shorts & Shirt

(Shirt can be either short-sleeved, long-sleeved or short-sleeved polo)

All students will receive one pair of shoes supplied directly from SSR.

Order Form and Sizing

A template for an order form and a shoe sizing chart that you can provide to parents is available. The order form template can be edited to match the items available with your school uniform requirements and can assist schools to manage the online application process. These forms can be downloaded from the SSR website at www.ssr.net.au/schools

Additional costs to parents

Where SSR cannot supply uniform items parents will receive a voucher that subsidises the cost of purchasing the uniform items. The voucher(s) can be redeemed at your school uniform shop or at an independent uniform retailer, which will be listed on the voucher.

The vouchers provided by SSR list every approved item for the student and the maximum purchase value that SSR will subsidise for each item.

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Telephone: 03 8769 8400

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Parents receiving vouchers may need to make a contribution towards the cost of the items, depending on the retail purchase price and how much SSR subsidises. Parents who receive vouchers can work out how much extra they need to pay towards uniform items using the school's or uniform supplier's price list.

Can parents have cash from State Schools' Relief to purchase their child's uniform?

No, vouchers are provided as SSR cannot make cash payments to schools or parents towards uniform costs.

Sometimes a uniform will cost less than the stated subsidised amount on the voucher. Any unspent residual subsidy cannot be provided as cash to the school or the parent or used to purchase a different uniform item.

The vouchers are not transferable between different school uniform shops or retail businesses and they cannot be exchanged for cash at retail outlets.

How do the vouchers work?

Approved vouchers will be dispatched electronically by SSR to the secondary school that made the application. The school then provides the voucher to the parent for redemption at the school's uniform shop or an independent uniform retailer.

Approved orders and vouchers have an expiry date that is detailed on the voucher. Please encourage all parents to collect items from the school uniform shop or redeem their vouchers before they expire. Expired vouchers cannot be redeemed. If uniform items are still needed a new application is required.

How can school staff make applications?

Applications must come from the secondary school where the Year 7 student is commencing in 2018.

Applications are made through the secure online portal at www.ssr.net.au/schools. This portal allows approved staff from every secondary school to use their secure login details to prepare and submit applications electronically to SSR.

For more detailed instructions about the SSR online application portal please refer to the User Guide available on the SSR website at www.ssr.net.au/schools. If your school is not already registered with SSR, or unsure of the eligibility requirements, please phone 03 8769 8400 for assistance.

What is the application turnaround timeline?

SSR aim to process each application and dispatch goods within five business days after DET has confirmed the student is an approved CSEF recipient. During peak times, this timeline may be extended.

Can parents who are ineligible for CSEF or who have children in other year levels receive assistance from State Schools' Relief?

Yes. Schools are still able to access SSR's charitable uniform support for students in other year levels. SSR continues to enable principals to apply this traditional regular support based on their assessment of need. The School Policy and Advisory Guide provides further guidance to school principals in this area.

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