

## Volunteer health and wellbeing

We ensure volunteers are well versed and committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for themselves, their fellow volunteers, and their community. They receive formal training in work, health and safety and are skilled in recognition of hazards and management risks in an unsafe workplace.

Volunteers and their families also have access to a broad range of physical and mental health and wellbeing programs including health checks, vaccinations, mental health support, fitness programs, workers' compensation, and peer support.

## Support for employers

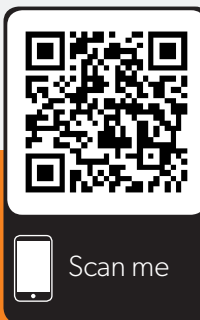
When allowing employees to volunteer, we understand this is a big commitment on your part. We therefore provide you with support and information to help you, including:

- Payroll tax exemptions
- Leave arrangements
- National employment standards

Details are provided at [ses.gov.au/volunteer](https://ses.gov.au/volunteer).

### Talk to VICSES today

Call us on 1300 842 737 or email  
[joinus@ses.vic.gov.au](mailto:joinus@ses.vic.gov.au).



Or visit:  
[ses.vic.gov.au/volunteer](https://ses.vic.gov.au/volunteer)

# Victoria State Emergency Service volunteers: Information for employers



*Safer Communities - Together*

## Employers of volunteers

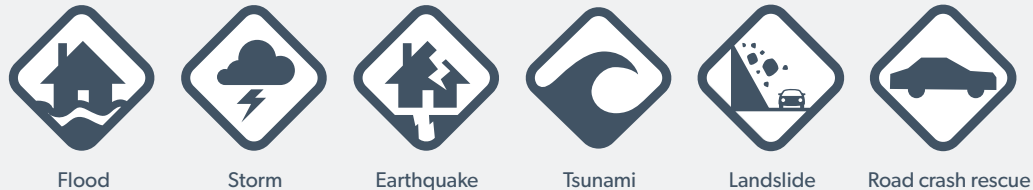
It takes thousands of dedicated Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) volunteers from across the state to provide emergency assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Our volunteers live and work in their communities and embody the spirit of community service. They also play an important role in influencing and supporting community actions and decisions before, during and after emergency events – all of which would not be possible without the support and commitment of their employers.

Allowing employees to volunteer illustrates corporate social responsibility and is critical to VICSES keeping communities safer. All volunteers receive nationally endorsed and competency-based training in a broad range of areas. This brings a wealth of new skills to both VICSES and your organisation.

## About us

VICSES is a volunteer-based organisation providing emergency assistance to minimise the impact of emergencies and strengthen the community's capacity to plan, respond and recover, when emergencies occur. Operating since 1950 we cover metropolitan and regional Victoria.

We are unique as we provide multiple specialist services. As a result, our volunteers carry out the broadest suite of emergency response of any of the emergency service organisations in the state. In Victoria we are the control agency for flood, storm, earthquake and landslide. We also provide the largest road rescue network in Australia with specialist teams in 103 of our 149 units across the state.



We collaborate with the community in preparing for emergencies, raising and improving awareness of emergencies and preparedness, and providing timely, relevant and accurate information and warnings. Our volunteers are the backbone of our organisation.



## About VICSES volunteers

Volunteers come from all walks of life, covering a diverse range of ages, professions and backgrounds. They assist with everything from front line response, to media engagement and community education.

Volunteers receive nationally endorsed and competency based training and support which is available after hours and on weekends. This ensures every volunteer is skilled and capable to perform their role. Pathways for further development are also provided.

Each VICSES unit is unique in its size, responsibilities and location. Volunteers can select the unit and schedule to suit their lifestyle and workplace.

Roles and specialised skills that volunteers can experience and develop include:

- General rescue
- Community education
- First aid
- Storm response
- Media liaison
- Road crash rescue
- Social media management
- Boat rescue and flood response
- Search and rescue
- Fundraising
- Map reading and navigation
- Supervising events
- Leading and managing teams
- Administrative support
- Four wheel driving
- Incident management

## Benefits of volunteering – for employers and volunteers

Volunteering for VICSES is an enriching and fulfilling experience. It provides an opportunity to learn highly sought after skills that can also add value in the workplace.

Skills and experience VICSES volunteers bring to the workplace include:

- Nationally endorsed and competency-based training in a broad range of areas
- Leadership, team work and communication
- Problem solving and adaptability
- Demonstrated contribution to corporate social responsibility
- Increased employee engagement
- Improved morale, confidence and motivation.

