



Girl Guides Victoria and VICSES Program

Girl Guides Badge

Welcome to the Girl Guides Victoria and Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) Girl Guides Badge Program.

This program is designed to broaden Girl Guides' understanding of the vital role VICSES plays during emergencies. Participants will gain new skills and engage in activities that focus on VICSES volunteering and preparing communities for critical situations.

A highlight of the program is the opportunity for Guides to interact with and learn directly from volunteers at their local VICSES unit. Our formal partnership with Girl Guides Victoria strengthens the connections that many Guides already have with their local units, while learning practical skills to work together to keep communities safe.

To earn the VICSES Girl Guides badge, Guides are required to work closely with their local VICSES unit. This hands-on experience encourages Guides to explore the variety of volunteering roles and leadership development pathways available, especially for young women.

The program is designed to be completed over several weeks, allowing Guides to develop valuable life skills while learning and participating in meaningful activities. Detailed information about the age-specific activities can be found on the following pages.



Content Guide

The program is structured by age to give Guide Leaders flexibility in delivering activities during regular unit meetings. All tasks must be completed before the badge can be awarded.

Program objectives:

- Broaden Guides' knowledge and understanding of VICSES and its vital role in keeping Victorian communities safe.
- Introduce Guides to new skills and challenges reflecting the important work of VICSES volunteers.
- Promote discussion and advocacy around gender equality within organisations such as VICSES.
- Showcase the wide range of volunteering opportunities available to young women through the VICSES.

Badge program

Ages 5 - 10

- Visit a local VICSES unit or invite VICSES volunteers to visit your Guide unit.
- Create an emergency kit for your home, specific to floods and storms.
- Learn to safely use basic hand tools.
- Take part in an activity that practices first aid skills.
- In patrols, explore who can volunteer with the VICSES and present your findings to the unit - this could be done as a skit, poem, or song.
- Learn new knots and understand their practical uses.
- Design a promotional poster encouraging your community to join VICSES.
- Select and lead a game or activity inspired by what you have learned.

Ages 10 – 14

- Visit a local VICSES unit or invite VICSES volunteers to visit your Guide unit.
- Work as a patrol to research and present on emergency preparedness for your Guide Unit or hut.
- Show how you can make your home “‘storm safe’” with photo evidence. Include a list of essential items you would take if you had to leave your home in an emergency.
- Demonstrate building a sandbag wall.
- Participate in re-enacting mock emergency preparedness scenarios.
- Learn a new knot and explain how it could be used in an emergency.
- Use hand tools to create a practical item.
- Select and lead a game or activity inspired by what you have learned.
- Profile a female VICSES volunteer [GB1.1] and explore ways to encourage more woman to join VICSES.

Ages 14+

- Visit a local VICSES unit, invite VICSES volunteers to your Guide unit, or attend a VICSES information/training night.
- Demonstrate skills in using hand tools and selected power tools safely.
- Practice building a sandbag wall and learn how sandbags keep communities safe in the event of flood.
- Research and present on the mental health challenges faced by emergency volunteers and first responders.
- Show how to make your home ready for emergencies with photo evidence, including a list of essential items you would take in an emergency.
- Participate in re-enacting mock emergencies, including first aid scenarios.
- Design a game or activity related to your learning, aimed at younger Guides.
- Profile a female VICSES volunteer and explore ways to encourage more women to join VICSES.

Ages 18 – 30 (Olaves)

- Attend a VICSES unit information session.
- Demonstrate safe use of hand tools or selected power tools.
- Explain or demonstrate how to build a sandbag wall.
- Research how emergency preparedness volunteers are supported for their mental health and present your findings to your peers.
- Show how you would prepare your home, local area, or community for a natural disaster.
- Explore ways the VICSES could increase female membership.
- Consider joining a VICSES unit with the expectation of a minimum 12-month commitment.