

## Duties Include

- To Mentor learner drivers by taking them for driving practice
- To fill out log book at the completion of a session
- To maintain regular contact with the co-ordinator

## Skills Required

- Proficiency in using English language
- A good knowledge of Victorian road rules
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- An understanding of, and empathy for, people from diverse cultural backgrounds
- A non-judgemental and positive attitude
- Ability to work independently
- Flexibility and patience



**For more information  
please contact:**

### **Immigration and Welfare team**

Geelong West Office

153 Pakington St

Geelong West

<http://www.diversitat.org.au>

Email: [diversitat@diversitat.org.au](mailto:diversitat@diversitat.org.au)

Ph | 03 5221 6044

Fax | 03 5223 2848

## **SKILLS TO EMPOWER**

### **Driving Education and Practice Program**

Are you interested in becoming involved with this rewarding and valuable program?

## Program Aims

**The Driving Practice Program aims to empower individuals and communities who are vulnerable and at a disadvantage to reach their full potential. It aims to build on refugees knowledge of Victorian road rules and traffic regulations as well as providing them with support to access driving lessons and driving practice. This will enable the learner driver to gain the recommended amount of safe driving experience.**

## Driving Practice Program

The Driving Practice Program is a volunteer mentor support program aimed at assisting refugees with a learners permit to gain the driving experience they require to gain a Probationary License.

Learner drivers will receive at least 7 professional driving lessons as part of the program before being matched with a volunteer mentor.

Volunteers are an integral and valued part of the program and the program could not exist without their involvement.

Volunteers initially undertake a recruitment process, an induction session and training program. Volunteers are matched with a learner driver.

## Who benefits

Refugees in our region come from a diversity of cultures and experiences. In Geelong they mostly come from Sudan, Liberia and Karen (Burma). What they have in common is that they and their families have been forced to leave their homeland.

Research has shown that a newly arrived refugees with a learners permit will often find it very difficult to gain a sufficient number of hours of supervised driving experience. They often lack access to a safe car, they have no experienced driver able to supervise and they are not able to afford professional instruction.

By becoming involved with the Driving Practice Program you provide invaluable support to this group and assist with their settlement in a new country and culture. This rewarding experience can not only provide volunteers with an opportunity to assist this group but also a chance to learn about different cultures.



## Volunteer Driver Mentors

Volunteers come from all walks of life. Current occupation does not matter, and no prior experience is required.

To become involved in the program a commitment of 1 to 2 hours per week is required.

Engagement in voluntary work will be dependent upon the following:-

- Initial interview
- A full drivers Licence
- A police check
- Referee Check
- Satisfactory completion of the Volunteer Training Program

## Driver supervisor Support

Drivers are provided with ongoing support in the form of training, support meetings and ongoing communication with the volunteer co-ordinator.

### Training includes:

- 3 x 3hour training sessions with Vic Roads
- Induction and Cross Cultural training (Evening session)