

# Southern Metropolitan Region No 2100

Legislative Council  
60 Parliament First Session

## Question

Asked: 4 February

### Constituency Questions

**KATHERINE COPSEY** — To ask the Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop (for the Minister for Public and Active Transport):  
(2100) My question is to the Minister for Public and Active Transport. A constituent has contacted me about the fairness of Victoria's student Myki concessions for people commencing full-time postgrad study. Transport Victoria's published eligibility rules state that postgrad and part-time students cannot get a student concession. I note many other jurisdictions generally provide concessions on full-time tertiary enrolment rather than excluding postgraduate studies. For example, New South Wales offers a tertiary concession on Opal for eligible full-time students in accredited higher education and VET courses. The ACT states tertiary students are eligible for concession fares. WA and SA offer concessions for full-time uni and TAFE students, regardless of whether that is undergraduate or postgraduate. In a cost-of-living crisis, Victoria punishes people who are going on to postgraduate studies despite the significant study placement and travel costs that it takes to do so. Will the minister review the student concession eligibility settings to include full-time postgrad students, and if you will not, why not?

## Answer

Answered: 31 March

I thank the member for her question.

The Allan Labor Government heavily subsidises Victoria's public transport system, as well as offering a range of concessions and initiatives to make PT more affordable – such as our regional fare cap, free PT for kids under 18, and free statewide weekend travel for seniors, disability support pensioners and carers. The regional fare cap alone has saved Victorians - including postgraduate students who travel to and from regional Victoria for their studies – more than \$184 million since it was introduced in March 2023.

Concession myki fares are available to Victorian seniors, pensioners, disability support recipients, carers, and eligible concession card holders. This includes postgraduate students if they are a permanent resident and hold a Victorian Health Care Card issued by Services Australia. Health Care Cards are available to people on low incomes, including postgraduate students. This ensures that financial assistance is equitable and targeted to people who need it most.

Students who regularly travel on public transport may benefit from purchasing a myki pass of 7 days or anywhere between 28 and 365 days, which offers a lower daily rate. Victorians can consult the Transport Victoria website to determine what ticket is most suitable for them based on their travel patterns.

We regularly review our fare and ticketing offerings to ensure they are fair and equitable - while also continuing to support, through fare revenue, the delivery of better public transport services and infrastructure for Victorians.

**Gabrielle Williams MP**

Minister for Public and Active Transport