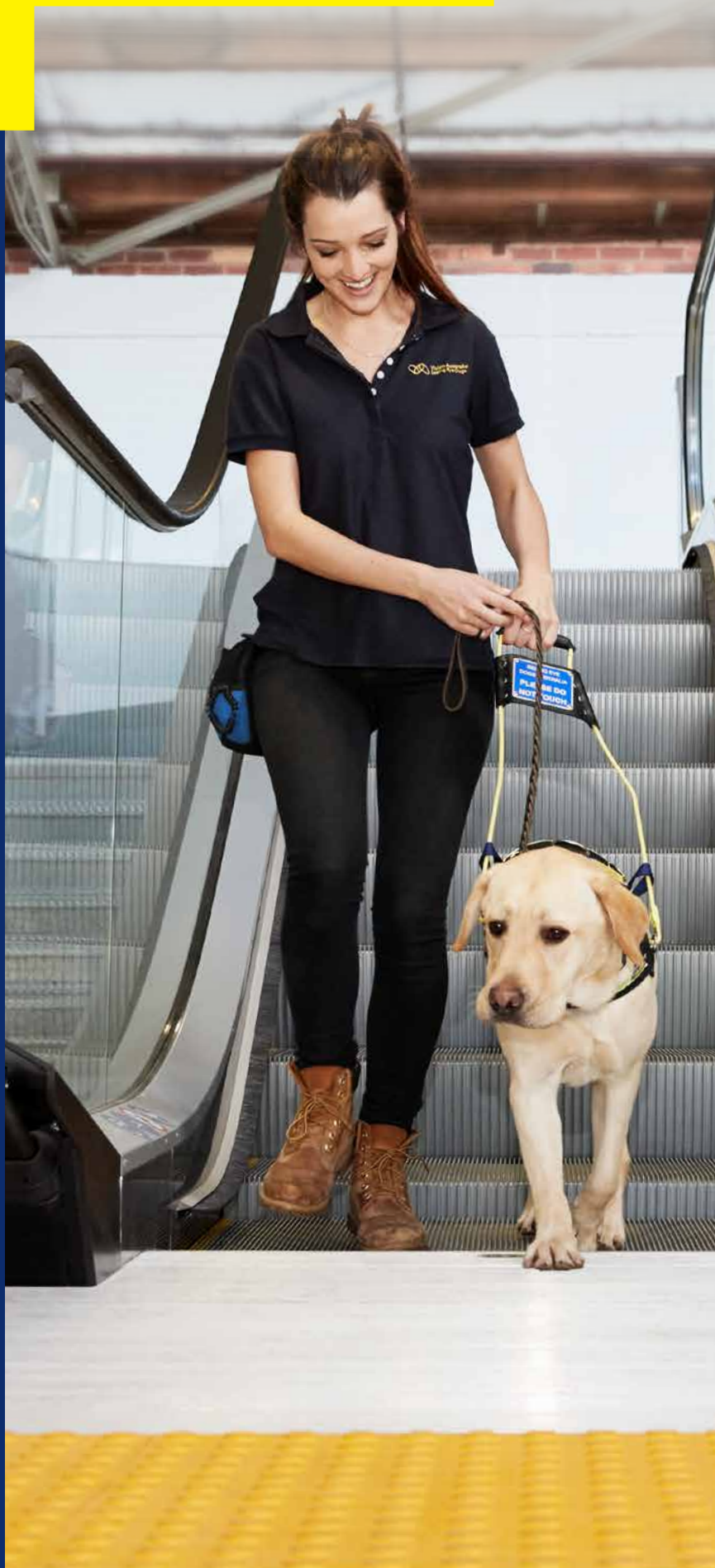


Seeing Eye Dogs Services

Seeing Eye Dogs support Australians who are blind or have low vision to live the life they choose.



Vision Australia
Seeing Eye Dogs



World-class Seeing Eye Dogs

Vision Australia Seeing Eye Dogs act as guides for Australians who are blind or have low vision. They open up a world of independence, safety and freedom for clients to participate in all areas of life.

Seeing Eye Dogs are bred at a world-class, purpose-built facility in Melbourne. A team of qualified instructors train each dog, beginning with basic behaviours and then progressing to more complex skills.

Standards are incredibly high with an unrelenting commitment to produce the world's best. At the end of the training period, the Seeing Eye Dog is ready to be matched to a person who is blind or has low vision.

Internationally accredited, Seeing Eye Dogs is a member of the International Guide Dog Federation (IGDF) and is the only national provider of dog guides in Australia.

"Over an intense five months, Seeing Eye Dogs receive the training they need to become the best of the best."

Patrick Glines, Chief Instructor



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Seeing Eye Dogs offer support to apply for NDIS funds for you and your Seeing Eye Dog, training and maintenance costs. This includes report writing and advocacy for your planning meeting. Our dedicated NDIS team can assist you.

Contact us to find out more.

We need your help to succeed



For people who are blind or have low vision, Seeing Eye Dogs make a new life of independence, mobility and opportunity possible.

As a national for purpose charitable organisation, our work depends on your support. Our facility is staffed by teams of experts and supported by a team of passionate volunteers.

Breeding, training and caring for a Seeing Eye Dog is both rewarding and challenging. It costs over \$50,000 and takes up to two years of intensive training for each Seeing Eye Dog to graduate.

There are a number of ways you can help care for a Seeing Eye Dog during various stages of their development, such as:

- Puppy Caring
- Foster Caring
- Breeder Caring

How can you help?

1. Puppy Carer program

When you care for a puppy, you play a significant role in the development of a Seeing Eye Dog. The Puppy Carer program offers either full-time (12-15 months) or 6 month caring options.

Puppies live at home with their puppy carer from eight weeks old until they are 15 months of age.

Puppy carers are supported by expert Puppy Development Trainers. Your role as a carer is to provide a safe space, nurture and socialise the puppy. You will take them out into the world to experience streets, cafes and shopping centres. You can even bring your puppy to work.

Seeing Eye Dogs covers all expenses including equipment, food, vet costs, puppy health care and training.

2. Foster Carer program

The Foster Carer program involves shorter term care of puppies at various ages, dogs in training, breeding dogs or graduated dogs that would benefit from a rest in a home environment. From time to time it is beneficial for our dogs to have time away from kennels to have a break from training or when they need additional care.

Foster caring can vary in duration from one week to several months, depending on the dog's needs.

3. Breeder Carer program

Providing full-time care for a creator of future Seeing Eye Dogs is a special role. A small number of dogs join the Melbourne-based breeding program aimed at producing world-class pups. Being a breeding dog carer gives you the chance to care for a breeding dog in your own home and is a longer term arrangement, often over a number of years.

To become a puppy, foster or breeder carer, please apply online at:

sed.visionaustralia.org

Please note: The Carer program is not available in all States and Territories. Please contact Seeing Eye Dogs for more information.



Repeat puppy carer,
Michael Vitale and one of
his Seeing Eye Dogs pups.

State-of-the-art Mobility Training Centre

Seeing Eye Dogs national headquarters in Melbourne is home to the world-first Leigh Garwood Mobility Training Centre. It was completed in 2017 with funding from generous donors and a grant from the State Government.

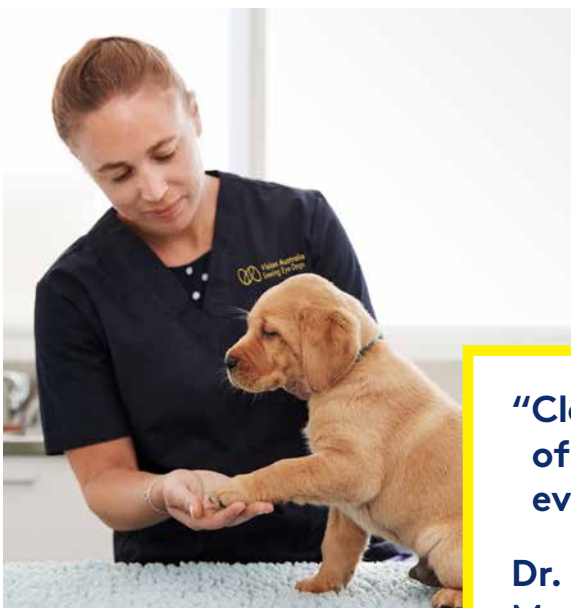
The centre provides a safe space for training white cane clients, Seeing Eye Dogs, and training partner teams of clients and dogs once they are matched. This builds client confidence before moving into real world situations.

It includes a fully functioning escalator, train carriages, working traffic lights and several sets of stairs.



The Leigh Garwood Mobility Training Centre

Veterinary, Breeding and Kennel facilities



Our Seeing Eye Dogs puppies are a precious resource. This is reflected in the effort and investment that Vision Australia Seeing Eye Dogs has also put into its Puppy Centre, Veterinary, Breeding and Kennel facilities that were funded entirely by donations.

"Close attention is paid to every aspect of a Seeing Eye Dog's development even before they are born."

**Dr. Nicola Cotton,
Manager Dog Development**

Other opportunities to support Seeing Eye Dogs

Become a donor

Your generous support as a donor means we can continue to train Seeing Eye Dogs that change the lives of people who are blind or have low vision.

As the only national provider of dog guides, matching Seeing Eye Dogs to our clients is something we take great pride in.

We invite you to help us to continue to provide clients with a life of independence through the Seeing Eye Dogs program.

For more information, visit:

sed.visionaustralia.org/how-you-can-help/donate

Volunteering

There are many rewarding volunteer opportunities at Seeing Eye Dogs.

Please visit our volunteering page at:

sed.visionaustralia.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer

Your support can make a big difference in someone's life

Seeing Eye Dogs is part of Vision Australia, a leading national provider of blindness and low vision services. Vision Australia has over 30 metro and regional centres around Australia.

We acknowledge the support of state and commonwealth governments and our generous community who together help us to provide world-class services for people who are blind or have low vision.

Supporting partners:



Find out more

Visit: sed.visionaustralia.org

Call: 1800 03 77 73

Email: info@sed.org.au



Vision Australia
Seeing Eye Dogs