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# LEAP 2022 Program Information

Vision Australia’s LEAP (Learn, Engage, Act, Perform) program is an innovative employability and leadership program. LEAP is designed specifically for young people who are blind or have low vision who want to learn new skills and gain confidence to achieve their personal and professional goals. LEAP is an inclusive program that is tailored to each person’s needs and goals.

Traditional education and disability employment services often do not have the expertise in vision loss that young people require to learn new skills in a meaningful way. Vision Australia are experts in vision loss services and support and understand the unique challenges that young people can face.

## The 2022 program

The LEAP program will build a young person’s employability by supporting them to achieve goals across the following domains:

* Choice and control
* Work
* Social and community participation
* Relationships
* Daily living
* Lifelong learning
* Health and wellbeing

Participants graduate with important skills in emotional intelligence, relationships, conversational skills, personal presentation, and technology. They also graduate with a personalised resume and cover letter, which is coupled with their new skills in job searching, networking, and job interviewing.

LEAP is a ten-month program running from February to November 2022. It is designed for teenagers aged 14-18 years who are blind or have low vision. Participants can live anywhere in Australia. All young people applying to participate in LEAP 2022 are required to complete a "LEAP-Mini" session before December 14th, 2021. For more information about the LEAP-Mini, visit our [Program Details](https://www.visionaustralia.org/services/children/leap/program-details) page.

Check out our [website](https://www.visionaustralia.org/services/children/leap/register) for additional information and testimonials from our LEAP graduates. You can also watch an audio described video of impressions from previous participants [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrP_QlafeOw).

For more information or to register your interest, please complete the [expression of interest form here](https://www.visionaustralia.org/services/children/leap/register) or email [LEAP@visionaustralia.org](mailto:LEAP@visionaustralia.org).

Chloe, Vision Australia client

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## Key dates

**Registrations close:** December 14, 2021

**Program starts:** February 2022

**Individual meetings:** Monthly session booked between you and your Vision Australia Service Provider

**Group meetings:** One evening per month for the duration of the program.

**Magic Moments Camp**: Held in Collaroy, Sydney for 5 days in July 2022.

## Time commitment per month

The program is designed to work outside of school hours.

* 90-minute monthly one-on-one sessions with a Vision Australia Service Provider.
* 60-minute monthly group meeting with fellow LEAP participants and Vision Australia Group Facilitators.
* 60-minute weekly independent task completion

## Program Delivery

Sessions are delivered by Vision Australia Service Providers via Telehealth. LEAP’s team of Service Providers includes Occupational Therapists, Psychologists, Orthoptists, Speech Pathologists, Counsellors, and Orientation and Mobility Specialists.

## Cost

* Appropriate NDIS funding can be used for this program.
* Magic Moment Camp is a separate cost of approximately $1500. Depending on your circumstances, if you are unable to meet this cost please talk to us about other available options.



Maxwell,

Vision Australia client

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## Monthly schedule

### February

Activities

* Baseline Survey, personality survey and discussion about your strengths, preferences, things that energise you and how this translates to your daily life.

Outcomes

* Understanding the type of career you may be suited to.
* How your personality impacts the way you think.

### March

Activities

* Watch motivational speaker Simon Sinek’s video on millennials in the workplace. Followed by discussion and questions about the video and your mentor preferences.
* Boost your tech skills: emailing, calendar management, and what technology can offer you.

Outcomes

* Understanding how employers may see you as the “younger generation” and what this means.
* Understanding what you need in a mentor and why this is important.
* Understanding how technology can support you to achieve your goals, email etiquette, time management, and planning.

### April

Activities

* Learn about your project activity and brainstorm ideas.
* Introduction of the “elevator pitch” and demonstrate how to be proactive in life.
* Technology session: exploring if your device is meeting your needs and learning how to use your device effectively.

Outcomes

* Creating a plan for your project and what support you might need to achieve the goals.
* Understanding how to showcase your talents.
* Understanding how to use your device to meet your goals.

### May

Activities

* Complete your project plan
* Prepare for Magic Moments camp in July.
* Formalise, record, and send your elevator pitch for evaluation by your Service Provider and Program Coordinator.

Outcomes

* Understanding how a coach or a mentor can assist you to navigate your life choices.
* Articulating your needs for the Magic Moments camp.
* Develop an understanding of what a brand is, what your brand is, and how you see yourself and how others see you.

### June

Activities

* Voice Coaching.
* Branding continued.

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Outcomes

* How to make an impact with your voice and how to like your voice, know when and how to speak in groups and public presentations.

### July

Activities

* Magic Moments Camp, located at the Collaroy Centre, Collaroy, Sydney.

Outcomes

* Skills to develop your resume and job searching skills.
* During the camp, you will learn about overcoming fears, emotional resilience, business skills, financial literacy, what it means to be a leader, and meet your fellow LEAP participants in person.
* Have fun!

### August

Activities

* Networking, resumes, cover letters, job advertisements, and mock interviews.

Outcomes

* Understanding networking.
* Preparing a resume and cover letter.

### September

Activities

* Preparing your job application for mock interviews.

Outcomes

* Undertaking a mock interview.
* Personalised feedback from Vision Australia employment consultants.

### October

Activities

* Emotional intelligence: reflecting on priorities, values, and behaviour.
* Preparing for final presentations.

Outcomes

* Getting to know yourself and liking yourself a little bit more.

### November

Delivery of final presentation (via Zoom) to fellow participants, family, friends, and Vision Australia staff. This is the culmination of everything participants have learned during their time in the LEAP Program.

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Amish, Vision Australia client