

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP

Minister for Veterans

Minister for Small Business and Employment

Minister for Youth



Monday, 3 March 2025

WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ANZACS

The Allan Labor Government will give a dozen Victorian students the opportunity to embark on a fully funded 11-day study tour to Gallipoli, Türkiye, where they will retrace the footsteps of the ANZACs.

Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman today invited students in years nine to 12 to apply for the 2025 Spirit of Anzac Prize and gain a deeper understanding of Australia's wartime history.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize, ensuring that Victorian students continue to learn about our veterans' service and sacrifice. This milestone is particularly significant as students will visit Gallipoli on the 110th anniversary of the ANZACs' landing on 25 April 1915.

By walking the same ground as those who served, students will gain a profound appreciation of the resilience, mateship, and courage that define the ANZAC spirit.

As part of their application, students will reflect on their interest in wartime history, their understanding of ANZAC values, their contributions to their school and community, and the knowledge they hope to gain from this unique experience.

More than 4,000 students have submitted applications in the last 20 years, with more than 500 of these given the opportunity to visit historic battlefields and memorials across Europe, Southeast Asia and Australia.

The Labor Government continues to support this program, ensuring that future generations recognise the contributions of our veterans through educational programs, school initiatives, and commemorative events.

Through opportunities like this, the Labor Government is fostering a deep respect for history so the sacrifices of past generations are never forgotten.

Applications are open until Monday, 28 April 2025. To apply or find out more visit www.vic.gov.au/soap.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman

"For 20 years, the Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize has given young Victorians the wonderful opportunity to gain a profound appreciation of our nation's history and the sacrifices made by those who served."

"I encourage eligible students to embrace this opportunity to walk in the footsteps of our heroes and be part of the legacy that continues to educate and inspire future generations."