

## **Applying for a low cost Computerbank Computer**

### **Who is eligible our low cost computers?**

You are eligible for a computer if you have a Commonwealth government concession card, are a student or an asylum seeker.

Computerbank is a not for profit organisation run by volunteers. We have been helping people cross the digital divide since 1999. At Computerbank our donated computers are tested, refurbished, loaded with excellent open source software and then quality assured. Our computers come with a three month back to base warranty.

**We do NOT supply Windows systems or Microsoft software, or Apple systems or “dual boot” systems.**

### **Shop**

Computer systems for concession holders start from \$20 up to approx \$250 for later models. Ring us before you come to make sure a computer similar to the one you would like is available. We can't deliver computers. At the shop you will fill out a short application form and will need to show us your Commonwealth government concession card. We are only open two days a week - Friday and Saturday 10am-5pm.

### **What is on our computers**

Our computers have the Linux Ubuntu operating system, Open Office, a word processor for documents, a spreadsheet, a typing tutor, email facilities and Firefox web browser. There are games for children and adults. Each computer comes with a manual. All computers have a monitor, keyboard, mouse and connecting cables. To connect to the internet you will need a modem and an account with an Internet Service Provider (ISP). We can advise you about this. We use Linux and free open source software because we believe that software should be freely available and shared by all. Software should also be freely accessible to anyone to modify and improve. This was the philosophy of the early developers who created the personal computer revolution. We think the cost of proprietary software such as Windows, contributes to the digital divide and that free/open source software is an excellent alternative.

### **Support**

Phone and Email support is available. Phone Friday 11am-4pm or Saturday 1-4pm, email us at [info@computerbank.org.au](mailto:info@computerbank.org.au), or drop off your computer for repair. After the warranty period we charge \$25 for repairs. If home training or support is required we charge \$33 an hour and a call out fee of between \$10-\$30.

### **Training**

People buying a computer from us can book for two sessions. Training sessions are on every second Saturday 1.30pm – 4.30pm at Computerbank. In these sessions we introduce the Linux operating system, how to safely start and stop your computer, how to find things on your Computerbank computer. How to create save and find documents, file management and using the Internet.

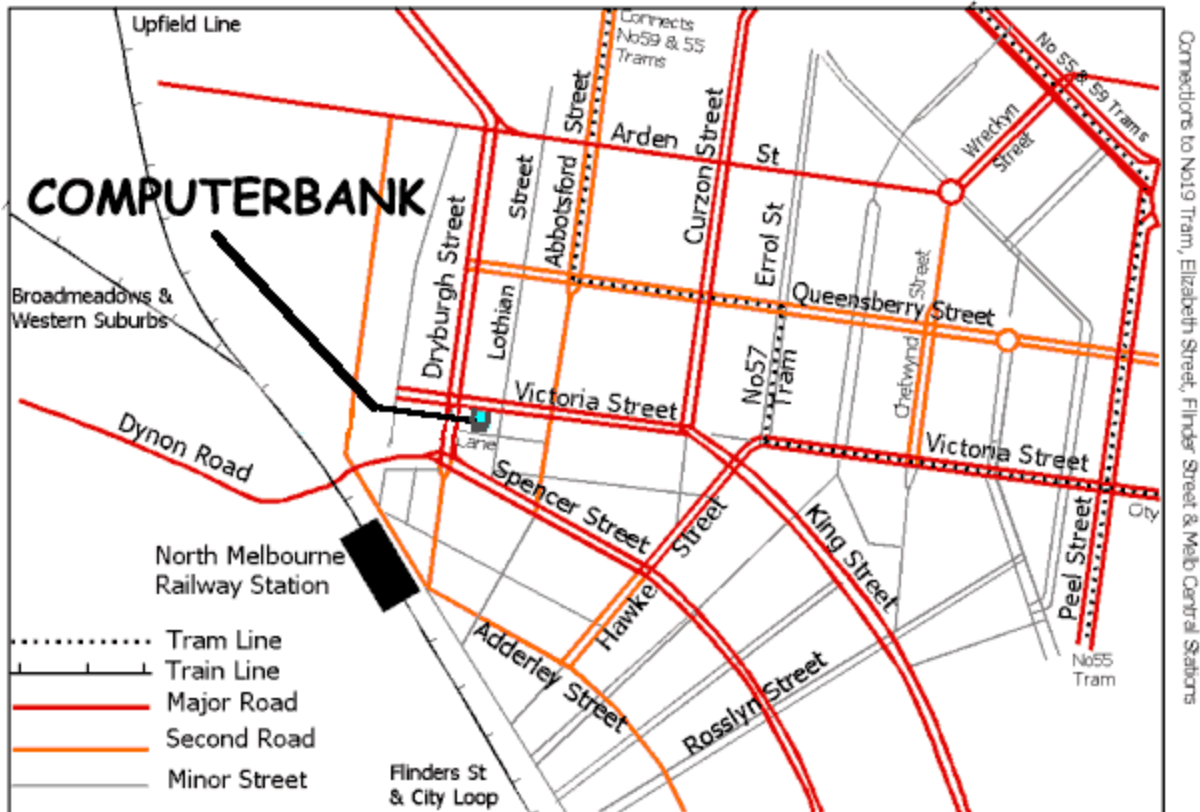
### **Show Me How**

We run a **show me how** day on the third Saturday of the month at 2pm. Please call and book in. If you have a digital camera, a printer etc, and want help getting it to work with one of our computers, bring in the item and your computer box and we will show you how they can work together.

## Printers

We have new HP printers as well as second hand lasers and inkjets available from our shop. If buying a printer, ring us to make sure it will work with your Computerbank Linux computer. Also check the cost of ink – some ink replacements cost over \$90.

If you have something that needs to work with your computer (eg: printer, scanner, modem, etc) drop it off at Computerbank and we will configure it with your new Computerbank computer for free. It takes a week for this free service.



**Computerbank's location 483 Victoria St, (near Dryburgh St) West Melbourne. We are at the west end of Victoria St.**

**Low-cost or free computers are also available from:**

- Computer swap meets, second hand dealers, and ebay
- Equipment Recyclers Network Inc. in Ringwood (for people with disabilities) Phone: 9879 5211
- Community Groups can try B2C Recyclers, Thomastown. Phone 9465 6300
- Green PC: Sells computers with Windows to concession card holders. \$50 deposit required before system is built. Phone 9418 7400
- PCs For Kids - under 16. PO Box 69, Belmont. VIC, 3216, Phone 5221 9211
- Publications such as The Trading Post and Computer Trader