

# Local Schools Community Fund

The Australian Government is providing \$30.2 million in 2019–20 for the Local Schools Community Fund (the Fund), with up to \$200,000 available for each federal electorate. The Fund will benefit students and assist schools to meet their priorities through the contribution of funding for small scale projects and their associated costs.

The Fund is open to all schools—government, Catholic and independent.

Schools can apply for funding for one project between \$1,000 and \$20,000. Where a school is composed of multiple campuses, the school or campus may submit an application for each campus to fund a project between \$1,000 and \$20,000.

Funding requested can be for the total cost of the project, or part of the cost where the school contributes an amount.

If your local MP is not participating in the Fund, your school will not receive funding. Funding for schools in your electorate will be allocated to other electorates.

## Eligible funding activities

Examples of projects a school may wish to apply for include, but are not limited to:

- master-planning
- small scale extensions / refurbishments
- installation of computer or ICT facilities / equipment / software
- playground and sporting equipment
- shade structures
- landscaping
- procurement of musical facilities, furniture, computer equipment (e.g. digital whiteboards), library resources
- air-conditioning
- measures to target student wellbeing
- counselling or youth mental health support
- excursions for students from remote areas
- additional English as a second language support for refugee students
- specific facilities for students with a disability in a school.

Additional eligibility criteria apply and can be found in the Local Schools Community Fund Guidelines.

Funding is not available from the Australian Government to meet ongoing costs incurred by schools and approved authorities from approved projects under this Fund.

Approved projects can commence once notification has been received from the department and are to be completed by 31 December 2020.

## Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to apply for funding, a school must be in receipt of Commonwealth recurrent funding for 2019 under the *Australian Education Act 2013*.

## Application

Schools will be required to address the following assessment criteria in their application:

- who will benefit from the project
- the expected benefits of the project to the school community
- how the project provides value for public money
- whether the project would proceed without this funding.
- Schools will also be asked to:
  - provide assurance the project will be completed by 31 December 2020
  - declare on the application form that they have notified their approved authority before submitting an application
  - identify what consultation has occurred with their local school community to identify the project.

## How to apply

Schools can submit an application form through [SchoolsHUB](#).

Applications are now open and close at 5:00 pm AEST, 30 September 2019.

Individuals applying on behalf of a school, who are not already registered in SchoolsHUB, need to:

1. Register a user account
2. Link their profile to their school record and apply for the Application Officer role, then
3. Complete and submit their application.

More information on how to register and link to a school is available in the:

- [SchoolsHUB registration guide for non-government school users](#)
- [SchoolsHUB registration guide for government school users](#)

## Application assessment

Each Member of the House of Representatives is responsible for forming a Local Advisory Committee which will assess applications in their electorate against the Fund criteria and make recommendations to the Minister for Education.

Each electorate has total funding of up to \$200,000 that can be allocated to successful applications. There is no minimum or maximum number of projects which can be funded in each electorate.

The Minister for Education will decide which applications to approve based on each Local Advisory Committee's recommendations.

The Minister for Education's decisions are final.

## Successful applications

Schools approved for funding for a project will receive notification in early December 2019, with funds paid to the approved authority of a school from the start of the 2020 calendar year.

## Key documents

- [Local Schools Community Fund Guidelines](#)
- [Factsheet](#)
- [Sample application form](#)

## Contact

For more information, contact [localschoolscommunityfund@education.gov.au](mailto:localschoolscommunityfund@education.gov.au)