

FUNDING GUIDELINES

2024-25 State Government Capital Grant for Independent Non-Government Schools

The Government of South Australia is committed to assisting South Australian non-government primary and secondary school communities to improve school capital infrastructure.

Objectives

The objectives of State Government Capital Grant funding are to:

- provide and improve school capital infrastructure, particularly for the most educationally disadvantaged students
- ensure attention to refurbishment and upgrading of capital infrastructure for existing students, while making provision for needs arising from new demographic and enrolment needs.

State Government Capital Grants can be used for the following eligible purposes:

- erecting, altering, extending, demolishing or refurbishing a building or other facility
- outdoor learning areas including nature play and play equipment and sun shades
- installing or upgrading water, electricity, internet or other services (such as sewerage, fire safety, security, solar panels, telecommunications, AV and PA systems)
- providing classroom furniture and fit-out (includes air conditioning/heating)
- providing information fixed technology equipment (eg. interactive smartboards)
- providing library furniture and fit-out
- obtaining services and goods for cataloguing a library but only as part of a broader capital project (eg. refurbishment or construction of a new library).

State Government Capital Grants cannot be used for the following ineligible purposes:

- **ipads or laptops (unless the school can provide a business case as to why capital funding is required for these items, rather than recurrent funding)**
- facilities which have religious worship as a principal purpose
- installation or maintenance of swimming pools or rifle ranges
- facilities in a co-educational school where those facilities will not, as far as practicable, be equally available to male and female students at the school
- teaching equipment such as robotics kits, musical instruments
- vehicles of any nature
- organic landscaping items (such as trees, plants, lawn)
- architectural reports or design and document costs (unless part of a larger capital project)



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- facilities where the majority of the use will be by full fee paying overseas, or other unfunded students attending a 'for profit' section of the school
- facilities that are principally for pre-primary education, i.e. for children below the prescribed school starting age or where the facility is not in a formal school setting
- where retrospective approval is sought (except in the instance of a continuation of the previous year's grant funded project)
- projects proposed to be undertaken solely by parents and friends.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for funding, an independent non-government school must:

- be registered pursuant to the Education and Early Childhood Services (Registration and Standards) Act 2011
- be a member of the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA)
- demonstrate that the project meets an eligible purpose
- own the land or have a lease for the land and/or buildings that has a period to run commensurate with the period on which the capital grant may be required to be repaid if the school no longer provides school education
- ensure the acquittal and reporting requirements due for submission for any previous state capital grant funding have been met. **Failure to provide acquittals may exclude schools from participating in future rounds.**

Note: Receipt of State Government Capital Grant funding does not preclude a school from making application under the [Non-Government School Low-Interest Loans Scheme](#) administered through the South Australian Financing Authority.

Application Process

Eligible schools will be invited to apply for the funding by completing the 2024-25 Application Form via the SmartyGrants online application form.

Schools in the below approved authorities must first receive the endorsement of their relevant system authority before submitting an application:

- Christian Community Ministries
- Lutheran Schools Association of SA, NT & WA Inc.
- Seventh Day Adventist Schools (SA) Ltd.
- SA Anglican School Systems Incorporated.



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- Sunrise Christian Schools

Applications must be received no later than (date TBC)

Selection Process

Applications will be assessed by a selection panel comprising representatives from the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA) and the Department for Education.

The selection panel will submit its recommendations to the Minister for Education, Training and Skills for approval.

Once approved, the Minister will write to successful applicants advising them of the outcome of their application as soon as practicable and prior to making any public announcements.

Funding Allocation

Funding entitlement is based on each school's index which takes into account the school's Direct Measure of Income (DMI) score and final 2024 enrolment information provided by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment.

Each successful school will be required to:

- enter into a new funding agreement with the Minister (or the Minister's delegate)
- complete the funded projects by 30 September 2025.

Right to repayment

If a school ceases to provide primary or secondary education within three years of receipt of this grant, all funding received under this program is to be returned to the Minister for Education, Training and Skills.

Accountability

The Department is responsible to the Minister for ensuring appropriate accountability for state government funding in accordance with Treasurer's Instructions and South Australian legislation. The grant recipient must therefore comply with the financial accountability requirements as set out in the terms and conditions of the funding agreement.

Schools will be required to provide an Acquittal Report outlining expenditure and certifying that the funds were expended for the intended purpose of the grant. An Acquittal Report Form will be provided.

Acknowledgements

It is a requirement under the terms and conditions of funding that the:



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- Minister for Education, Training and Skills or his delegate, is invited to any events relating to the project for which State Government funding has been provided
- The Government South Australia is recognised in any material/publications/media related to initiatives funded under this program.

For further information

Please email External Relations at: education.grants@sa.gov.au

