

2027 Projected Student Resource Allocations

The Education Directorate is taking steps to improve fairness and consistency in how funding is allocated across ACT public schools. As part of this, school budgets will return to a needs-based funding approach through the Student Resource Allocation (SRA) model from 2027.

The changes are designed to better align funding and staffing with student need across the public education system. While some schools will receive additional funding, others may see adjustments to ensure resources are distributed more equitably.

How 2027 SRA funding for ACT public schools is calculated

Funding to ACT public schools is derived from a combination of Commonwealth and ACT Government contributions. The Commonwealth calculates its funding share (20 per cent) using the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS), and the ACT Government contributes the majority share of funding (80 per cent) for government schools and allocates resources to schools through its needs-based funding model, the Student Resource Allocation (SRA) methodology.

The Student Resource Allocation (SRA) methodology was developed to reflect the ACT Government's commitment to implement a student needs-based school funding model for ACT public schools.

Projected SRA allocations are provided for planning purposes and are calculated using:

- Student enrolment figures from the February 2026 Census.
- Specific school characteristics and identified student needs.
- Standard annual indexation adjustments.
- The core Student Resource Allocation (SRA) needs-based formula.

Schools receive their actual SRA budgets for 2027 during term 1 2027, which are adjusted to reflect their actual student enrolments.

Key reforms and adjustments for 2027

Students with Disability: Adjustments-Based Resourcing Model (ABRM)

- Replaces the former diagnosis and deficit-focused model (Disability Eligibility and SCAN).
- Uses data from the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) to fund necessary educational adjustments directly.
- Transitional funding arrangements will remain active in 2027 to ensure smooth implementation across schools.

Specialist Schools

- Specialist schools will continue to receive additional funding supplementation in 2027 to meet approved staffing levels.
- While the baseline SRA provides the foundation, supplementary funding is determined following the completion of the 2027 Staff Budgeting Tool and agreement with the Education Support Office.

New Cultural Integrity Allocation

- Introduced in 2027 to support educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.
- Guidance and allocation details will be provided in Term 4, 2026; this funding will be added to actual 2027 SRA statements rather than the projected figures.

Teacher Librarian Funding

- Now funded directly within school SRA allocations rather than centrally managed by the Education Support Office, providing clear visibility within school staffing and professional development budgets.

Casual Relief Funding (Personal Leave)

- Revised to calculate allocations based on total full-time equivalent (FTE) staffing and updated reimbursement rates, replacing historical usage calculations.

Preschool and Healthcare Support

- **Preschool Adjustments:** Provisional allocations support children from Term 1, with final numbers confirmed during the Term 2, 2027 inclusion support review.
- HAAS: Healthcare Access at School funding remains embedded within school allocations to assist students with daily health management.

Core Allocation - Stages of schooling – college weighting

- A minor reduction of 0.10 'Stages of Schooling' weighting has been applied in college SRAs.



Next steps

- **Enrolment projection review**
Schools with significant variations between the February 2026 Census and 2027 enrolment projections will receive targeted advice and support from the Education Support Office.
- **Workforce Profiling (Term 3, Weeks 6–7)**
Principals and school leadership teams are utilising the Staff Budgeting Tool to build approved staffing profiles for 2027.
- **School Board endorsement (Term 4, Week 8)**
As part of standard governance processes, School Boards will review and formally endorse their school's final 2027 budget in **Week 8 of term 4**.

