

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The most significant proportion of federal funding for non-government schools is in the form of the General Recurrent Grants.

Recurrent expenditure funding for non-government schools is based on the socio-economic status (SES) of a school community. The SES funding model involves linking student residential addresses to Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) national Census data to obtain a socioeconomic profile of the school community and measure its capacity to support the school.

The SES “score” that is derived from this model is used to determine the percentage of the national Average Government School Recurrent Costs (AGSRC) that each school will receive.

The AGSRC is the notional, average, per capita cost of educating a student in a state school in Australia. It is calculated by taking the total costs of running government schools and dividing them by the number of students, giving an average cost per student on a national basis. So the AGSRC reflects movements in state or territory expenditure on public schools. As a result, increases in salaries and wages have the effect of increasing the dollar value of the AGSRC.

Current AGSRC rates are:

\$8,380 Primary

\$ 10,646 Secondary

Each non-government school is granted a percentage of the AGSRC depending on the socioeconomic status score that has been allocated to it.

Some examples:

1. **Marist College Ashgrove** has an SES score of 116 and is “funding maintained”¹ at 31.2% of the AGSRC. It receives the following:
31.2% of \$8,380.00 for each primary student (**\$2,614.56**) and
31.2% of \$10,646.00 for each secondary student. (**\$3,321.55**).
2. **Emmaus College Jimboomba** has an SES score of 93 and therefore attracts 60% of the AGSRC. It receives the following:
60% of \$8,380.00 for each primary student (**\$5,028.00**)
60% of \$10,646.00 for each secondary student (**\$6,387.60**).
3. **St Edmund’s College Ipswich** has an SES score of 95 attracting 57.5% of the AGSRC. As a secondary College, it receives the following:
57.5% of \$10,646.00 for each secondary student (**\$6,121.45**).
4. **St Paul’s Primary School Woodridge** has an SES score of 82 attracting 70% of the AGSRC. As a primary school it receives the following:
70% of \$8380.00 for each primary student (**\$5866.00**).

¹ Funding Maintained = school is ‘funding maintained’ in real terms (ie with full AGSRC indexation) at its year 2008 funding level. Funding Maintained schools have an SES score that would otherwise attract a lower level of funding.