Department of Education
Learners first, connected and inspired

Non-Government School Assistance
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State funding to non-government schools includes General Education Grant funding, Loan Interest Subsidy/ Capital Assistance Scheme funding and Special Needs funding. Following is a brief description of each funding source and application forms to apply.

1. General Education Grant

The Department of Education – Tasmania recurrent grant (General Education Grant) is allocated to non-government schools using a 100% needs-based funding mechanism.

Eligible non-government schools are required to submit annually to the Department a formal application for funding. Application forms are sent out in July of each year.

Under the administrative arrangements for the General Education Grant payments are made in two instalments, paid in August and December of each year. The first instalment is based on 80% of the total grant allocation in the previous year with the second instalment based on the balance of the current year’s funding pool.

2. Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme/Capital Assistance Scheme

The Loan Interest Subsidy Scheme provides interest subsidies to individual schools on the basis of interest charges incurred on loans taken out for eligible capital expenditure. In accordance with an agreement reached with the non-government school representatives in 1998, the Loan Interest Subsidy scheme is being phased out and existing loans will only continue to be supported until one of the following happens:

   a) The loan is paid out;
   
   b) A period of twenty years has elapsed from the original starting date, or
   
   c) The loan is refinanced.

Eligible non-government schools are required to submit annually to the Department a formal application for funding application forms for this funding are sent out in April of each year.

Payment of the Loan Interest Subsidy/Capital Assistance Scheme is made in June of each year.

This scheme has been replaced by the Capital Assistance Scheme, which is administered by the Catholic Education Office and Independent Schools Tasmania. Any schools applying for assistances under the Capital Assistance Scheme should contact the relevant governing body.

3. Special Needs Funding

Funding for students with special needs provides annual grants to the Catholic Education Office and Independent Schools Tasmania, which they apply to special education requirements within their schools.
4. Acquittal Requirements

In accordance with the Financial Management and Audit Act 1990 and Section 70 of the Education Act 1994, non-government schools, the Catholic Education Office and Independent Schools Tasmania are required to provide a certificate signed by a qualified Accountant that certifies that the grants were received and disbursed for the purposes for which they were provided. Section 70 of the Education Act 1994 allows for the certificate to be provided within 6 months after the end of the school’s relevant financial year, which can be either a financial or calendar year, Acquittal Certificate.

5. Related Documents

Documents are available from www.education.tas.gov.au (Search for Doc ID)

- Non-Government Grants Acquittal Certificate (Doc ID: TASED-4-1248)
- Application for GEG and Estimated Enrolments (Doc ID: TASED-4-1249)

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