

Welcome to the July 2025 SchoolsHUB newsletter

This edition provides a mid-year update on the initiatives and remaining SchoolsHUB collections for 2025.

Notify us of changes to your school

You are required by law to tell us about any changes to your school:

- key individual changes
- contact detail changes
- additional year levels
- school/location changes
- enrolment or significant data changes
- any changes relating to your approval as an approved authority.

Why your school must have up-to-date details on SchoolsHUB

You need to have up-to-date details to access SchoolsHUB information. This ensures we can contact your school's appropriate representative and process any funding-affecting changes. You may also have had staffing changes so it's important to check who has access to your school's data. Approved authorities should check the correct people have the right level of access to submit your data – this includes your independent qualified accountant.

How to notify us of changes

Approved authorities can sign into SchoolsHUB now and select **Manage Organisation** to review or update information. Please notify us of your school's changes as soon as possible. For help with updating your SchoolsHUB information, call 1800 677 027 (select option 1).

Complete overdue SchoolsHUB activities

The following financial data collections are now past their due date of 30 June 2025:

- the financial questionnaire (including audited financial statements and signed auditor's report) for the 2024 calendar year
- financial accountability activities (acquittal certificate and block allocation summary).

Approved authorities who have not met their financial reporting requirements will be recorded as non-compliant and the following action may be taken:

- varying the frequency of financial assistance recurrent payments
- pausing/ceasing recurrent funding
- imposing conditions on approval, or
- revoking approval as an approved authority.

We will formally write to all approved authorities that are non-compliant with submissions in July 2025. If you have any questions, call 1800 677 027 (select option 4, then option 1).

Remaining data collections and activities for 2025

The key dates for remaining SchoolsHUB data collections and activities – which schools are required to provide to support funding calculations, and meet reporting and assurance requirements – are outlined below:

2025 Student attendance (STATS) semester 1 and term 3

STATS semester 1 data collection opened Wednesday 18 June and closes Friday 1 August 2025. STATS term 3 data collection will commence Wednesday 17 September and close Friday 24 October 2025.

We encourage all approved authorities to read the updated reporting guidance on the <u>SchoolsHUB STATS page</u>.

If you have STATS questions, call 1800 677 027 (select option 2, then option 3).

Non-government schools census day is Friday 1 August 2025

The 2025 Non-government schools census collection opens Monday 28 July and closes Friday 8 August 2025.

Accurate data matters. The information you submit determines your school's funding. It also appears on the <u>MySchool</u> website, which helps parents and the wider community understand and compare schools across Australia. Once your data is declared, there is limited opportunity for changes – so it's essential to get it right the first time.

Tip: Double-check your data before submitting. A few extra minutes now can prevent issues later.

Census special circumstance applications are due by Friday 15 August 2025.

Further information is available on the <u>SchoolsHUB census page</u>. If you have census questions, call 1800 677 027 (select option 2, then option 1).

2025 Compliance certificate (CC)

The CC collection opens on Monday 11 August 2025. The collection provides a level of assurance that approved authorities continued to satisfy their ongoing policy requirements in the 2024 school year.

The CC process has 2 stages: the CC collection and the CC verification exercise. We will contact selected approved authorities for the CC collection and verification exercise. Approved authority representatives may also receive a survey from the Department of Education in August 2025 at the end of the process.

Payment information and estimating school funding

Indexation rate 2025

Australian Government recurrent funding for schools is needs-based and calculated with reference to the Schooling Resource Standard. The base amount and all the loadings are indexed each year to reflect price changes and, therefore, costs faced by schools. The final 2025 indexation rate (which we use to calculate your school's recurrent funding) will be published on the Department of Education website.

Download the <u>How is school funding indexed</u> fact sheet for more information.

Remaining payments for 2025

The July 2025 payment has now been processed, with the next major payment in October 2025. Schools on varied payment plans will receive payments in accordance with their plan.

We use information from the 2025 Non-government schools census and student background data (SBD) collection to determine the actual funding entitlement for the 2025 school funding year. The October payment will include any outstanding entitlement amounts of annual funding and incorporate the final 2025 indexation rate.

If you've had changes to your student population since last census, use the <u>SchoolsHUB</u> online estimator to check how the changes may affect your funding.

All school funding received in 2025 by approved authorities for school purposes is to be spent or committed to be spent by the end of the 2025 calendar year.

For more funding information, download the <u>Use of recurrent funding guide</u>, email <u>schoolsassurance@education.gov.au</u> or call 1800 677 027 (select option 3).

Capacity to Contribute (CTC) scores

The Australian Government has committed to a temporary 12-month rollover of current CTC scores for 2026. The Department of Education expects to write soon to all approved authorities with information on the delivery of this commitment and information regarding your 2026 CTC score.

A big thank you to the many schools who submitted the 2025 Student residential address and other information collection (address collection) by the closing date (12 March). As a result of all schools' efforts, and other process improvements, we anticipate completing our annual calculation process at least one month earlier than previous years.

Reporting foundation year students in the census

Legislation defines 'foundation' as 'the year of schooling immediately before year 1'. For Australian Government recurrent funding purposes, foundation is a 'year' or 12 months of schooling. This means that students who participate in a foundation program that goes beyond 12 months can only attract recurrent funding for a single year (which is the year immediately before year 1).

Students who repeat a foundation year of schooling due to lack of educational attainment or development can attract recurrent funding for the repeated year of schooling. Further information is available in a <u>factsheet</u> on SchoolsHUB.

Important advice on correctly reporting students with disability

As part of the 2025 Non-government schools census, schools are required to complete the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD).

When completing the NCCD, it's important that schools:

- only report students who meet the requirements set out in the 2025 NCCD Guidelines
- inform parents, guardians and carers about their child's inclusion in the NCCD
- if imputing disability, document evidence that demonstrates the student's needs for adjustment(s) have been identified and arise from characteristics of disability and that non-disability factors have been considered and ruled out.

Schools are also reminded that the NCCD is not a count of all students who are receiving adjustments. The NCCD is a count of students receiving adjustments for disability only.

Visit the NCCD portal to download the 2025 NCCD Guidelines and the NCCD Quick Guide.

A new reliable, user-friendly platform to report your school's data

The new Education Funding System (EFS) will progressively replace SchoolsHUB as the portal you use to manage your school's reporting to the Australian Government.

The user-friendly platform will make it easier for you to find information and submit your school's data.

How will I know when to use the EFS platform?

The EFS platform will be progressively released over the next year. We'll provide approved authorities with advanced notice and support as new functions are progressively added to the EFS platform.

More information

For more information about the EFS, including the research we've been doing with users to build the platform, visit the <u>EFS Project webpage</u>.

Choosing safe online education products for your school

With the many online education products available on the market, it can be difficult knowing which resources are safe and secure to use. The Safer Technologies 4 Schools (ST4S) initiative helps schools choose digital products and services that have been assessed against a consistent security and privacy control framework.

ST4S is administered by Education Services Australia (ESA) through its National Schools Interoperability Program (NSIP). The initiative was developed in collaboration with the Australian Government, state and territory governments, New Zealand Ministry of Education and the Catholic and independent school sectors to provide:

- an assessment approach with transparent requirements and standards
- summary reports aimed at reducing risks to schools when choosing digital products and services.

ST4S National Catalogue

ESA recently launched the ST4S National Catalogue which allows you to search for products, resources and suppliers that have been assessed through the ST4S framework.

You can register for the catalogue now. To find out more information about ST4S, visit the ST4S website.

SchoolsHUB key dates for 2025

This calendar helps you plan for all the activities you need to complete for your school in 2025.



	January	Payment	50% of the school's estimated annual entitlement
Term 1	February	Note	My School updated 2024 NAPLAN results and 2023 school financial data uploaded
	February	Note	Start preparing for your submission of the audited financial statements for the 2024 calendar year
	Wed 12 Feb	Open	Student residential address and other information collection
	Thu 27 Feb	Open	Student background data collection on ACARA's portal
	Wed 12 Mar	Close	Student residential address and other information collection
	12–24 Mar	Test	NAPLAN assessments
	Wed 2 Apr	Open	Financial acquittal certificate and Block allocation report
	Wed 2 Apr	Open	Financial questionnaire (including audited financial statements and signed auditor's report) for the 2024 calendar year
Term 2	Thu 8 May	Close	Student background data collection on ACARA's portal
	Wed 18 Jun	Open	Student attendance (STATS) collection semester 1
	Mon 30 Jun	Close	Financial acquittal certificate and Block allocation report
	Mon 30 Jun	Close	Financial questionnaire (including audited financial statements and signed auditor's report) for the 2024 calendar year
Term 3	July	Payment	75% of the school's estimated annual entitlement
	Mon 28 Jul	Open	Non-government schools census collection – including NCCD
	Fri 1 Aug	Close	Student attendance (STATS) collection semester 1
	Fri 1 Aug	Note	Non-government schools census day
	Fri 1 Aug	Open	Census special circumstance applications
	Fri 8 Aug	Close	Non-government schools census collection – including NCCD
	Mon 11 Aug	Open	Compliance certificate collection
	Fri 15 Aug	Close	Census special circumstance applications
	Wed 17 Sep	Open	Student attendance (STATS) collection term 3
	Fri 26 Sep	Close	Compliance certificate collection
Term 4	Fri 24 Oct	Close	Student attendance (STATS) collection term 3
	October	Payment	100% of the school's actual annual entitlement
	November	Published	Semester 1 2025 attendance data, and 2023 VETiS and Senior Secondary Outcomes data on My School
	November	Published	2026 capacity to contribute (CTC) scores on Department of Education website
	December	Published	Term 3 2025 attendance data on My School, Principal's portal open