



# Quality Schools

## Socio-economic status score information for schools and approved authorities

For most non-government schools, the base amount of Australian Government funding is reduced by the anticipated capacity of their school community to financially contribute towards the school's operating costs. This is called the 'capacity to contribute' assessment and is based on the socio-economic status (SES) score of the school or the approved system authority.

### What will my school's SES score be in 2018?

The newly established National Schools Resourcing Board is set to review the current socio-economic status (SES) score methodology. To provide funding certainty for schools while waiting for the outcome of this review, for most schools their 2017 SES score will continue to apply for the purposes of calculating Australian Government recurrent funding in 2018.

The majority of current SES scores were calculated using 2012 student residential addresses and 2011 ABS Census data. However, if your school had its SES score recalculated between 2014 and 2017, the recalculated score will continue to apply.

### Schools with a system-weighted average SES score in 2017

For all schools with a system-weighted average SES score in 2017, your individual school level SES score will now be used for 2018. However, an additional payment will be made to your approved system authority in 2018 equivalent to the system-weighted arrangements experienced in 2017.

All school systems will continue to have the ability to distribute funds according to their own needs-based arrangements, allowing them to address the needs of their schools from within their growing funding.

There are a small number of systemic schools that do not have a school level SES score, this is usually because they joined an existing system after 2014 that was already using a system-weighted average SES score. In these instances, school level scores will be calculated using 2012 student residential addresses (where available) and 2011 ABS Census data. If no student residential addresses are available from 2012 or a year prior to 2017, then 2017 student addresses will be used.

## Schools with no SES score (exempt under the Australian Education Act 2013)

Schools that currently have no SES score because they are exempt from *capacity to contribute* arrangements, will continue to be exempt (provided they still meet the relevant criteria) and have no SES score calculated for 2018. These schools are outlined in *section 52(6) Australian Education Act 2013*, and include government schools, special schools, special assistance schools, majority Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander schools and sole provider schools.

### What if Review tool

The What if Review tool that was previously available through School Service Point will remain offline until the review into the SES methodology has been finalised.

### Further information

View the [list of all non-government schools' SES scores](#).

For further information about SES scores, contact the SES Help Desk: [seshelpdesk@education.gov.au](mailto:seshelpdesk@education.gov.au).

### Scenarios

- *Example 1:* School began operation in 2004, its SES score of 108 was most recently calculated using 2012 addresses. Its SES score will remain 108 for 2018.
- *Example 2:* School began operation in 2015, their SES score of 99 was most recently calculated using 2015 addresses. Its SES score will remain 99 for 2018.
- *Example 3:* School began operation in 1998, their SES score of 102 was most recently calculated using 2012 addresses, however as it is part of an approved system it was given the system-average SES score of 101. Its original SES score of 102 will apply from 2018.
- *Example 4:* School began operation in 2014, as it joined an approved system no individual SES score was calculated, its was given the system-average SES score of 101. To calculate an SES score for 2018, 2017 student residential addresses and 2011 ABS census information will be used. Its calculated score is 98 and will apply from 2018.
- *Example 5:* School and campus began operation in 2010, its SES score of 89 was most recently calculated using 2012 addresses. The campus has since decided to become an individual school, as the Department has addresses from 2012 available, those are used to calculate its individual SES score, which is 95. The SES score of 95 will apply for 2018.