

Needs-Based Funding Distribution Principles:

Lutheran Education of Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania System

Lutheran Education Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania (LEVNT) acts as the approved system authority for 20 Lutheran Schools located in metropolitan and regional areas across Victoria (15), New South Wales (4) and Tasmania (1). LEVNT is the schools' department of the Lutheran Church of Australia Victorian District (including Tasmania) and also serves as the schools' department of the Lutheran Church of Australia New South Wales District under a memorandum of understanding between the two Church Districts.

Needs-Based Funding Distribution Arrangements

LEVNT receives public funding (base funding and school/student characteristic loadings) for LEVNT schools based on a system average SRS transition rate.

LEVNT will apply the following needs-based system funding distribution principles for LEVNT schools:

1. Public funding will be distributed to LEVNT schools in compliance with the *Australian Education Act 2013* and *Australian Education Regulation 2013*.
2. LEVNT will distribute base funding to individual schools based on the actual school SRS transition rate.
3. LEVNT will recognise needs-based funding arrangements that take account of the specific circumstances of students and individual schools in order to assist in the minimisation of disadvantage and facilitate a high quality education for each student in every Lutheran school.
4. Publicly funded loadings that are received based on student characteristics, school location and school size will be distributed in full to each school based on each school's SRS transition rate.
5. The distribution arrangements for LEVNT schools includes a mechanism to redistribute the ISV targeted funding allocated by the Commonwealth to Victorian schools in 2013. This redistribution will be transitioned to the new Commonwealth funding model over the period from 2018 to 2023.
6. LEVNT will distribute any system authority supplementary funding to schools based on student enrolments. The system supplementary funding is made up of:
 - a. the difference between the funding allocated to LEVNT, based on the system average SRS transition rate, and the funding allocated by LEVNT to schools based on each individual school's SRS transition rate
 - b. the Transition Assistance Funding that is received by the System

LEVNT Funding Arrangements

The LEVNT Regional Office is funded by schools through the following arrangements:

1. LEVNT will charge schools a System levy based on enrolments as reported at the August Census to fund its operations and support schools with their educational outcomes.
2. LEVNT will charge schools a separate Support Fund levy that is used to support schools in the event of specific circumstances such as financial hardship or developmental need. The Support Fund monies are managed separately according to a Terms of Reference approved by schools of the Region.
3. LEVNT will charge schools a separate System Transition levy based on enrolments as reported at the August Census that will be used to manage transitional funding outcomes across LEVNT schools for educational and student purposes, including assistance with managing any adverse funding impacts over the transition period.

All monies paid to LEVNT for levies is derived from schools recurrent income.

<p>LEVNT: Needs-Based Funding Distribution Principles</p>	<p>Compliance with: Australian Education Regulation 2013 Section 61 (sub-section 1)</p>
<p>LEVNT schools will distribute a per capita amount for each student, supplemented by additional funding targeted to individual student need.</p>	<p>a) An amount per student should be provided representing the recurrent resources required to support a student with minimal educational disadvantage to achieve expected educational outcomes.</p>
<p>Weighted average SES Score adopted and reviewed periodically. Funding distribution is based on each school's SES score.</p>	<p>b) An amount per student for non-government schools should recognise the capacity of the school's community to contribute financially to the school.</p>
<p>Publicly funded loadings will be distributed in full to the specific schools for which they have been received based on school and student characteristics.</p>	<p>c) In addition to the amounts mentioned in paragraph (a), loadings should be provided to students and schools with additional needs in order to support student achievement, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. for students with disability; and ii. for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students; and iii. for students with socio-educational disadvantage; and iv. for students who have low English proficiency; and v. for schools based on location; and vi. for schools based on size.
<p>The distribution arrangements for LEVNT schools includes a mechanism to redistribute the ISV targeted funding allocated by the Commonwealth to Victorian schools in 2013.</p> <p>Schools fund the LEVNT Regional Office from recurrent funding to provide services to improve educational outcomes and achieve greater efficiencies.</p>	<p>d) A funding model should take account of efficiencies that can be realised while improving educational outcomes;</p>
<p>Government funding to be distributed according to Schools Assembly approved needs-based funding principles and in compliance with Better Schools legislation.</p>	<p>e) A funding model should be publicly available and transparent.</p>

Reviewed: December 2018