

Building Education Revolution

Science and Languages Centres for 21st Century Secondary Schools

Prioritisation process for Queensland state schools

In order to meet the Australian Government's *Building the Education Revolution* (BER) program guidelines, following submissions from Queensland state secondary and P-12 (secondary component) schools, the Department of Education and Training was required to submit a prioritised list of state schools to the Australian Government Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) by 31 May 2009.

Australian Government's criteria

The Australian Government have advised that they will assess applications according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrated level of disadvantage
- Identified and demonstrated need for the specified building
- Effective and efficient use of Commonwealth funding
- Capacity to build the facility within the specified timeframe
- Extent to which the project incorporates sustainable building principles.

Rating against the criteria

For Queensland state schools, the Department of Education and Training rated school applications against the Australian Government's criteria as follows:

1. Demonstrated level of disadvantage
 - IRSED ranking
 - MYCETTYA rating
 - % of ESL students
 - % of ATSI students
 - % of students with a disability
 - Comment on community
2. Identified and demonstrated need for the specified building
 - Condition of facility, and alignment with the school and regional direction
3. Effective and efficient use of Commonwealth funding
 - Size of the school
 - Benefit to community
 - Regional priority

All schools were required to demonstrate these criteria in their application. Regional officers then reviewed, provided advice and formulated a prioritised list within each region. This list then informed a central panel who prioritised all submissions across the state. Details are provided below.

The other two criteria were assessed as equal for all applications as the Department will ensure these are met for all approved projects.

Regional Assessment Panel

- Role - assess and prioritise submissions from individual schools in a regional context
- Membership: Regional Executive Director, Regional Facilities Manager and others as required

State Wide Assessment Panel

- Role – to assess, review regions' priorities, moderate and rank submissions across the state
- Membership:
 - 1 x Executive Director Schools (Chair)
 - 1 or 2 Executive Director Schools or Regional Executive Director
 - Up to 2 x Regional Facilities Managers
 - 2 x Principal's association nomination
 - Supported by BER central office Project Team.

Approval

The prioritised list is assessed and reviewed against the Queensland Government's strategic initiatives. The prioritised list is approved by the Director-General prior to submission to the Australian Government.

Key Timelines

- 11-12 May: BER Senior Officers Steering Committee endorsement and finalisation of the process
- 13-19 May: Regions review, provide advice and priorities
- 20-22 May: State panel reviews regional advice and priorities
- 25-29 May: Nominations to be uploaded with Australian Government
- 31 May: Close off for submission of application to Australian Government.