

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0607\_12

**Senator McKenzie provided in writing.**

**Question**

***National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program***

"How will funding be distributed for the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program? Will it be by per capita, by student, by state, by school, etc or by any other model? Will there be additional weighting/criteria in funding formulae for regional schools, those teaching in regional classrooms or those students who reside in regional areas?"

**Answer**

The Australian Government committed funding of over \$62 million from 2008–09 to 2011–12 for the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program (NALSSP) to increase the opportunities for school students to become familiar with the languages and cultures of China, Indonesia, Japan and Korea.

NALSSP funding is allocated in four ways:

1. To state and territory education authorities  
\$43.68 million has been allocated to state and territory and non-government education authorities according to the number of full-time student enrolments as reported in the Australian Bureau of Statistics' publication *Schools, Australia 2007*.
2. Strategic Collaboration and Partnership Fund  
\$9.36 million has been allocated through three annual competitive funding rounds that offered organisations an opportunity to bid for up to \$500,000 in funding. Information on funding and requirements for applications is published in the NALSSP Guidelines which is available at [http://www.deewr.gov.au/Schooling/NALSSP/Documents/NALSSP\\_Program\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.deewr.gov.au/Schooling/NALSSP/Documents/NALSSP_Program_Guidelines.pdf)
3. Becoming Asia Literate: Grants to Schools  
\$6.24 million has been allocated through three annual competitive funding rounds to provide direct grants to primary and secondary schools. Where

possible, grants under the Grants to Schools were allocated to achieve representation across all states and territories, government, Catholic and independent schools and primary, secondary and P-12 schools. Information on funding and requirements for applications is published in the NALSSP Guidelines.

4. National Projects

\$2.87 million has been allocated to national projects to support the objectives of the NALSSP at a national level, and to respond to emerging priorities to support the teaching and learning of Asian languages. Information on funding is published in the NALSSP Guidelines.