

State Budget 2009–10

Department of Education and Training

Agency Budget Highlights

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Message from the Minister

The 2009–10 State Budget reflects the State Government's commitment to providing life opportunities, now and in the future, for all Queenslanders.

Parents and employers rightly expect their children to complete their schooling with sound literacy and numeracy skills. To help all students meet national standards in literacy and numeracy, \$72.3 million has been allocated over three years for the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan.

Significant funding has also been allocated for infrastructure and capital works programs that will create badly needed jobs in our volatile global economic environment while providing contemporary education and training facilities. With this goal in mind, we are working with the Australian Government to deliver capital works projects for our schools worth around \$1.168 billion in 2009–10 under the Australian Government's Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan's Building the Education Revolution program.

In addition, over the next three years we will build seven new state schools under the SEQ Public Private Partnership Schools Project, while \$301 million has been provided, as part of the five-year \$850 million State Schools of Tomorrow project, to continue the delivery of new and renewed educational facilities that support modern teaching methods for our older schools.

Further employment stimulus is being created through the delivery of infrastructure to underpin a dynamic and responsive

training system that supports the goals of the *Queensland Skills Plan 2008*. This includes ongoing construction of Skills Tech Australia's Acacia Ridge Campus and a specialist training centre in Townsville.

In an additional boost to jobs, we have allocated a further \$15.4 million in 2009–10 for capital works to begin implementing the Government's election promise to invest \$300 million to establish 240 new or extra kindergarten services by 2014.

This budget allows for more teachers and teacher aides and professional development to enhance staff capabilities, including TAFE and school teachers. The importance of training to a modern economy is reflected in our investment over four years of \$124.3 million under the National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program. This investment will leverage additional contributions from the Australian Government and individuals and enterprises to provide a combined investment of \$414.5 million over four years.

This will provide around 102 000 additional training places to upgrade the skills of existing workers and around 46 000 additional training places for job-seekers and new entrants to the labour market.

The provision of strong educational foundations, training opportunities, and the delivery of education and training facilities creating jobs for Queenslanders are the hallmark of my department's 2009–10 budget.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geoff Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GEOFF WILSON MP
Minister for Education and Training

In this State Budget, the Queensland Government is honouring its commitment to ensure our children receive the best possible educational foundation.

We are also supporting the State Government's priority of creating jobs by fast-tracking education and training infrastructure and providing a dynamic training system that responds to the needs of industry and creates real opportunities for all Queenslanders.

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In 2009–10 the department will invest \$7.838 billion in recurrent funding and a further \$1.748 billion in infrastructure.

Laying strong educational foundations

Literacy, numeracy and science

- As part of the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan, funding of \$72.3 million over three years, including \$20.3 million in 2009–10, will provide for:
 - additional full-time teachers to provide between 10 and 20 hours of intensive teaching each year for any Years 3 and 5 students not meeting national standards in literacy and numeracy
 - up to 80 literacy and numeracy coaches in schools that are not achieving national standards
 - the establishment of 72 Summer Schools to assist some 9000 Years 5 to 7 students and to provide professional development to teachers.
- The Science Spark program comprising \$43.5 million over three years, including \$11.1 million in 2009–10, aims to reignite student interest in science across Years 4 to 7 through:
 - employment of 100 new science teachers in primary schools to work with students in Years 4 to 7
 - roll out of a professional development program for primary teachers
 - expansion of the number of Earth Smart Science Schools from 60 to 1000, in which students will develop and use empirical skills to understand environmental sustainability and declaring 2010 as the Year of Environmental Sustainability in Schools.

Education infrastructure

- As part of a major investment in education infrastructure, the 2009–10 Budget provides:

- \$301 million, as part of the five-year \$850 million State Schools of Tomorrow program, to deliver new and renewed facilities that support modern teaching methods in some of the older schools in the state
- \$149 million to construct a replacement school for Amberley State School, undertake staged work at five schools, make land acquisitions and provide additional classrooms at existing schools in growth areas throughout the state
- \$100 million to replace and enhance facilities at existing schools
- \$43.7 million to continue the solar and energy efficiency program in schools
- \$11 million to acquire new employee housing and refurbish existing housing stock.
- Funding of \$126.1 million is provided for school maintenance during 2009–10, which includes the redirection of \$45 million from the State Schools of Tomorrow program.
- Funding of \$22.4 million in 2009–10, including the redirection of \$15 million from the State Schools of Tomorrow program, is provided for maintenance of employee housing.
- The Public Private Partnership Schools Project will build, operate and maintain seven new state schools in high growth areas. Primary schools will be located in Thornlands South; Peregian Springs and Bundilla on the Sunshine Coast; Bellbird Park and Collingwood Park in Ipswich; and East Coomera. A new high school will be built at Murrumba Downs. The schools at Peregian Springs and Thornlands South will be completed for the start of the 2010 school year. The remaining schools will open in 2011 and 2012.
- The department will deliver projects totalling some \$1.168 billion in 2009–10, as part of the National School Pride and the Secondary and Primary Schools for the 21st Century components of the Australian Government's Building the Education Revolution initiative.

Teaching and learning

- Provision for an additional 350 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers and teacher aides will meet enrolment growth in Queensland state schools.
- Funding of \$4.5 million in 2009–10 (\$43.1 million over three years) will provide an additional 5000 teacher aide hours per week to primary students from Prep to Year 7, the first phase of a \$43.1 million commitment to provide an additional 15 000 hours of teacher aide time over three years.
- The department, through a range of initiatives, will invest over \$48 million in professional development in 2009–10 to enhance the capability of staff, including TAFE and school teachers.



- In partnership with universities, the Catholic and independent sectors and principals' associations, the department will progress the establishment of a Queensland Education Leadership Institute. The Institute will develop the skills, knowledge and behaviour of current and aspiring leaders, middle managers and specialist teachers across the Queensland schooling sectors and provide these staff with ongoing school leadership support to bring about significant school improvement and reform.
- Funding of \$7.5 million in 2009–10 (\$15 million per annum from 2010–11) will provide an additional \$10 000 in grant funding for each school from the

2010 school year, with an additional \$3000 per school for schools in disadvantaged areas.

- Funding of \$8.7 million over three years, commencing with \$2.8 million in 2009–10, will be provided for Every Child Counts – a pilot program that will trial new and innovative approaches to improving the educational outcomes of disadvantaged students in the Logan area.
- Funding of \$3 million over three years, including \$1.2 million in 2009–10, is provided for the Edmund Rice Bridge Program. This program, administered in conjunction with the Department of Communities, will provide an innovative model of support for young people aged between 12 and 15 years who are returning from the juvenile justice system and are at risk of disengaging from education and other social connections.
- Investing \$8.3 million (in the third year of a \$30 million, four-year commitment) will continue the implementation of Australian Sign Language (Auslan) as the language of instruction for deaf/hearing-impaired students using signed communication.
- Providing \$2.5 million in 2009–10, in the third year of the \$10 million, four-year Indigenous Education Support Structures pilot operating across five clusters of state schools and a number of non-state schools.
- Funding of \$3 million in 2009–10 (part of a \$12 million four-year commitment) will continue implementation of the Queensland Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Framework for Years 1 to 9.
- Investment of more than \$100 million in Smart Classrooms initiatives will improve student, teacher and parent access to digital learning materials, while \$20 million provided under the Computers for Teachers program will continue the delivery of dedicated classroom computers and associated professional development to every permanent state school and TAFE institute teacher working two days or more a week.
- The department will work in partnership with the Australian Government in the development and implementation of strategies recognised under National Partnership Agreements for Literacy and Numeracy, Low Socio-Economic Status School Communities and Improving Teacher Quality.
- During 2009–10, the Trade Training Centres in Schools Program in Queensland will continue rolling out the Commonwealth's investment of up to \$61.1 million for the first round of the program to upgrade or build new training facilities for state schools.

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Developing skills for the economy

- The department will provide a major boost to skilling through the investment of \$124.3 million over four years from 1 January 2009 to 30 June 2012 (\$27.3 million in 2009–10) to create around 102 000 additional training places for existing Queensland workers, and around 46 000 additional training places for job-seekers, including new entrants to the labour market, to obtain trade, training and tertiary qualifications over the four years. The Queensland Government's investment will leverage additional contributions from the Australian Government, and individuals and enterprises, as part of the National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program to provide a combined investment of \$414.5 million over four years.



- The department will continue to implement key elements of the *Queensland Skills Plan 2008* including in 2009–10:
 - \$10.3 million to tailor the services provided by Skilling Solutions Queensland, to better meet the needs of particular industries and client groups
 - \$4.8 million to support a range of industry engagement models that promote industry leadership of skills formation and skilling solutions
 - continued reform of the Queensland TAFE system to meet the needs of industry, employers, workers and learners.
- Funding of \$343 million in 2009–10 will provide priority training through the public provider network of TAFE institutes, statutory TAFE institutes and the Australian Agricultural College Corporation.

- An allocation of \$203 million in 2009–10 will develop the skills of apprentices and trainees.
- The training and education needs of Indigenous Queenslanders will continue to receive specific support through:
 - \$2.7 million of state funding under the third year of a four-year Training Initiatives for Indigenous Adults in Regional and Remote Communities program, a joint dollar for dollar State-Commonwealth initiative
 - \$1.6 million under the final year of a four-year, \$5.5 million commitment to support students from the Torres Strait, Cape York and Palm Island and their families, while they study away from home at rural and urban secondary schools.

Training infrastructure

- Significant investment in training infrastructure during 2009–10 includes:
 - \$28.9 million to develop the new Coomera Education Precinct of the Gold Coast Institute of TAFE
 - \$22.7 million to continue the development of the Skills Tech Australia major trade and technician skills campus at Acacia Ridge
 - \$22.2 million to develop a major trade and technician skills campus at Townsville
 - \$9.1 million to redevelop the Nambour campus of the Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE and \$6.2 million to continue the redevelopment of the Cairns campus of the Tropical North Institute of TAFE.



Giving children a flying start

- The Queensland Government will invest over \$300 million to establish 240 new or extra kindergarten services by 2014. For 2009–10, \$15.4 million is committed for kindergarten infrastructure on state school sites including the construction of six additional services to open in 2010 and a further nine to open in 2011.
- The Government's strong investment in community kindergartens will continue with the provision of more than \$40 million for community kindergartens as well as the gradual implementation of kindergarten programs in other settings, including long day care.
- A comprehensive early years strategy will be implemented to provide a whole-of-government and community plan to deliver high quality integrated early childhood services, and to support the sector in attracting and retaining a diverse and highly skilled workforce.
- Funding of \$8.4 million is being provided in 2009–10 to establish early childhood education and care services at Nanango, Beenleigh, Toowoomba North, Ayr, The Gap, Beaudesert and Acacia Ridge.
- Nine integrated Indigenous Child and Family Centres will be rolled out over five years, in partnership with the Australian Government, to provide early childhood education and care, health, parenting and family support services for Indigenous children aged 0-8 years and their families.
- Funding of \$3.6 million will be provided in 2009–10 to expand child care capacity in the Bowen Basin communities of Moura, Clermont, Moranbah, Theodore, Blackwater and Middlemount.
- Pre-prep early learning programs will be provided across 35 Indigenous communities, with 2009–10 capital expenditure of \$16.7 million and recurrent expenditure of \$3.3 million representing the final phase of a four-year commitment.
- The *Child Care Act 2002* will be reviewed to create a contemporary legislative framework to implement national quality standards and streamline and improve regulatory and quality assurance processes.
- The early childhood sector will be supported in implementing quality reforms including the national Early Years Learning Framework.



Early childhood infrastructure

- An Early Years Centre at Browns Plains will be completed, while construction of a further Early Years Centre at Cairns will commence. Once completed, these centres will finalise a \$32 million commitment to establish four Early Years Centres that provide integrated early childhood education and care, family support and child and family health services.



Queensland
Government

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