

Community Language Schools Guidelines 2026

Community Languages Schools are after-hours language schools that provide community language teaching and cultural education.

At Community Language Schools, learners can consolidate their use and understanding of their home or community language in an atmosphere which values education, diversity and mutual respect. In doing this, the schools make a positive contribution to Australia's cultural and linguistic diversity.

The Department for Education, Children and Young People recognises the valuable role of language schools in the Tasmanian community.

Grant funding

In 2026, the Department for Education, Children and Young People will once again provide grant funding for community language schools in Tasmania. A per capita grant will be provided for each student enrolled. Grants will be sent directly to schools for the 2026 school year.

Applications for a Community Languages School grants open on Tuesday, 10 March 2026 and close on Tuesday, 14 April 2026.

Applicants must fill in the [application form](#) (online) and the student enrolment form (download and return via email). Both forms are required. For a link to the [application form](#) and the student enrolment form, please visit <https://www.decyp.tas.gov.au/about-us/for-service-providers/community-language-schools/>.

Please note that letters are required from schools (Government, Catholic or Independent) confirming that the students listed for enrolment currently attend full-time schooling. The student enrolment form and all confirmation letters are to be sent in a single email to the email address provided on the form.



Grant funding criteria

The Department for Education, Children and Young People will pay grants to schools that meet the following criteria:

- The Secretary of the Department for Education, Children and Young People must be satisfied with the bona fide nature of the organisation.
- The community language school must be controlled by, or be part of, a Tasmanian community group. Community language school authorities must be a legal not for profit organisation to be eligible for funding.
- Courses must involve instruction in a language other than English and must be open to students of any background.
- Schools must require students to attend for at least two hours each week.
- Students must also be enrolled in full-time schooling (Prep to Year 12) in a Tasmanian school.
- Students must be Australian citizens or permanent Australian residents.
- Classes must be held either after school hours or at weekends.
- Community language schools must organise a suitable public venue before funding will be granted.
- Language instructors must have a current Working with Vulnerable People registration for the entire time they are providing any instruction to students. Proof of registration is required as part of the application process.

It is recommended that schools are run by a qualified teacher.

Grants will not be paid for students in any class conducted within the normal program of a government or non-government school.

When applying for a grant, schools must:

1. Provide details of a proposed budget demonstrating the expenditure of the grant.
2. Provide an outline of the program to be offered by the school.
3. Meet financial acquittal requirements associated with the previous year's grant (if a grant was received), including the provision of:
 - a. a grant expenditure report
 - b. a copy of the organisation's annual report.
4. Provide attendance records for the previous year (if a grant was received).

Community Language School grants will be administered by a formal Grant Deed. This is required by the relevant legislation. After acceptance of a 2026 Grant Application, a Grant Deed will be provided by the Department for Education, Children and Young People for mutual agreement before payment of the grant.

Community language schools statewide can apply for a grant from the Department for Education, Children and Young People.

Contact

For more information or assistance with the application process, please email educational.partnerships@decyp.tas.gov.au.

Information and links can also be found here: www.decyp.tas.gov.au/parents-carers/programs-and-initiatives/community-language-schools/