In 2012, the NSW Government announced its Local Schools, Local Decisions (LSLD) reform for NSW public schools. This reform places students at the centre of school decision making. It gives principals and school communities a greater say over how they allocate and use the available resources to best meet the needs of their students.

To enable the shift of resources to the school level, a new Resource Allocation Model (RAM) has been developed. The RAM is designed to achieve a simpler, fairer and more transparent distribution of government school funding and change the way resources (staff and finances) are managed in our school system.

The RAM provides many benefits to schools by:

- allocating most funding on a per student basis.
- distributing resources to schools based on the characteristics of those schools and the students within them. This will result in additional schools receiving funding to support students with identified needs. In addition, schools identified as having students with the highest need will be funded at a higher rate.
- providing increased funding that goes directly to schools. This will make school planning easier from year to year.
- shifting from the previous funding model where schools managed around 10% of the total public school education budget to more than 70% being managed by schools.
- allowing for more flexibility, innovation and decision-making in schools to meet student needs. In 2014, NSW public schools received funding based on the first two components of the RAM: the targeted (individual student) funding and equity funding for Aboriginal background and Socio-economic background students.

In 2015, two new equity loadings will be delivered for:

- Low level adjustment for disability
- English language proficiency.

Both loadings are determined by the most recent student data and needs based methodology.

Eligible schools will also receive funding details of the new location loading to address additional costs faced by NSW schools that are geographically remote or isolated.

These are the first steps to implementing a fairer funding model which meets the needs of individual students and recognises that different schools have different needs.

Our school has been advised that we will receive $285,732 RAM funding to support our students with additional learning needs in 2015. This includes our schools equity loadings.

Further Information


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