

Cooler Classrooms





Cooler Classrooms

The NSW Government is committed to providing students with healthy and comfortable learning environments.

That's why we've invested a record \$500 million to provide a sustainable air conditioning program for NSW Government schools.

To ensure the NSW Government responds to the needs of students in the hottest parts of the State, we will provide air conditioning in permanent learning spaces and libraries at schools that experience a mean maximum January temperature of 30°C and above.

This record investment will also benefit schools with temperatures below 30°C who can apply to receive air conditioning in their permanent learning spaces and libraries.

As part of the program School Infrastructure NSW will assess each school's need for air conditioning, the current state of any existing air cooling or air conditioning and the works that may be required to provide new systems or replace existing systems.

Cooler Classrooms Fund

While we are focussing on schools in the hottest parts of the state, we recognise that many schools outside these areas may need improvements to the thermal comfort and indoor air quality of their permanent learning spaces and libraries. The Cooler Classrooms Fund will provide all schools with a mean maximum January temperature of below 30°C with the opportunity to receive air conditioning in their permanent learning spaces and libraries.

The new air conditioning units will improve the internal environment quality of permanent learning spaces and libraries with 'smart systems' that offer heating, cooling and CO₂ level monitoring and control, including the provision of outside fresh air. The units will automatically shut-down after hours and will be powered by solar technology and battery storage where possible, to off-set energy usage.

Eligible Schools

What is the January temperature of my School?

To learn the mean maximum January temperature of your school visit schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au and type in your school name in the search box on the homepage.

What do schools above 30°C need to do?

Schools with a mean maximum January temperature of 30°C and above are automatically eligible to receive air conditioning of permanent learning spaces and libraries. School Infrastructure NSW will be in contact with principals of these schools as the program rolls out.

What do schools below 30°C need to do?

Schools that have a mean maximum January temperature under 30°C may apply to the Cooler Classrooms Fund to receive air conditioning in their permanent learning spaces and libraries.

Applications for Round Two of the Cooler Classrooms Fund will open on Day 1, Term 1, 2019 and close at the end of Term 1.

Is there a minimum project size?

There is no minimum number of permanent learning spaces or libraries that need to be included as part of the application. Schools can apply for funding for air conditioning in just one or in all of their permanent learning spaces and/or libraries.

What information is required for the application?

To better understand the needs of your school, the application form will ask for details on:

- any existing air cooling/ conditioning systems in permanent learning spaces and libraries;
- the specific permanent learning spaces and libraries where air conditioning is being requested;
- whether there are unflued gas heaters in these spaces;
- whether there are students with special learning needs that will benefit from the air conditioning of these spaces, and
- for an overall statement of need outlining how air conditioning will contribute to educational outcomes and benefit the school as a whole.

What else will be considered to assess the applications?

School Infrastructure NSW will also consider a range of other factors when assessing applications, including:

- the mean maximum January temperature;
- how temperature and humidity affect comfort in permanent learning spaces and libraries;
- how the design of the school impacts the internal environment of the permanent learning spaces and libraries, and
- the extent of electrical infrastructure upgrades and other work that may be required.

Who will assess the applications?

Applications will be assessed against the above criteria by School Infrastructure NSW. The criteria for assessment of the applications has been independently reviewed.

How do I apply?

Principals or their delegate can apply through the existing AMS on the Web portal. Your school's local Asset Management Unit will be able to provide the Principal with assistance in completing your school's application.

Next steps

Applications for Round Two of Cooler Classrooms Fund will open on Day 1, Term 1, 2019 and close at the end of Term 1.

Schools which have already applied do not need to re-apply, except where their circumstances have significantly changed. Schools will be notified about their application once School Infrastructure NSW has completed their review of the applications.

Contact us

To find out more:

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