



# Education Funding System

## Overview video for approved authorities – recording transcript

### Slide 1: cover slide

[no content]

### Slide 2: Introduction

Hello and welcome to the Education Funding System briefing for approved authorities. My name is Justin Barrie and I'm excited to take you through the details of this important initiative.

This briefing will introduce you to the Education Funding System and why we need it, it will detail the benefits of the EFS and how the new system will be delivered. Provide you with details of the main changes and how to get support if needed.

### Slide 3: acknowledgement of country

The Department of Education respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community.

We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past and present.

### Slide 4: What is the Education Funding System?

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### Slide 5: EFS Overview

Education is important. That's why the Australian government provides over 30 billion for government and non-government schools and 21 billion to higher education providers each year.

This funding supports the delivery of high-quality education for all students, for a better future.

To manage these funds, we need a system that supports modern practices with technology that is resilient, flexible and secure.

The Australian Government is investing in the development of a new platform called the Education Funding System – otherwise known as the EFS.

## Slide 6: the EFS

The Education Funding System will improve the way funds are administered, while removing inefficient practices.

The EFS will deliver an easy and streamlined way to collect education provider data, which is used to calculate funding entitlements, assess eligibility and calculate payments.

It will support users to comply with funding requirements including acquittals and provide standard reports for a range of users.

The new platform will ensure payments are consistent, accurate and reliable through an enhanced online user experience.

The Education Funding System is a 3-year project based on a user centred design approach.

Ongoing engagement is occurring with the many impacted users across the life of the project, to deliver a fit-for-purpose and valuable platform.

The Education Funding System, will begin the journey to modernise the education digital ecosystem, delivering simple, secure, and connected digital services for the schools and higher education sectors.

And will improve the way we collect data, calculate entitlements, and makes payment to schools and universities.

## Slide 7: why do we need the Education Funding System?

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## Slide 8: EFS why

We know Australia's schools and higher education institutions rely on the timely and accurate payment of government funding.

The existing technology and platforms we use to calculate and administer funding is ageing and limited in its capabilities.

We know that education providers want more secure and efficient ways to transact and share information with the department.

We've heard from our users that they feel burdened by the requirement to manually upload data and are impacted by regular system errors.

We know our education providers want greater visibility into how their data is used and better access to history, service request logs, and year-by-year comparison reports.

## Slide 9: unified digital system



The EFS Project will deliver a unified digital system that reduces this administrative burden for schools and higher education providers, while continuing to deliver accurate and timely payments, within a secure, flexible and integrated online platform.

## Slide 10: strengthening security

Innovating how we manage and administer billions in Commonwealth education funding through a single, streamlined system is a big job on its own – but we also need to modernise and strengthen our IT security requirements.

The current cyber environment is becoming increasingly complex and high-risk, with government systems an attractive target.

Simple username and password logins linked to individual staff members are no longer secure for today's online environment. Strong cyber security measures and the safeguarding of sensitive information is essential to public trust and service continuity.

The Education Funding System will deliver simple, secure and connected online services, in line with world-class data and digital capabilities.

## Slide 11: what are the benefits of the EFS?

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## Slide 12: EFS benefits

The Education Funding System will deliver significant benefits to both to our education providers and the Department of Education.

## Slide 13: education provider benefits

For education providers the EFS will

- alleviate inefficient processes and reduce administrative burden
- mitigate the risk of system outages that impact your day-to-day operations
- provide a streamlined experience for education providers, supporting ease of access to their eligibility, entitlements, and funding information
- deliver a unified, reliable, resilient system that is able to process and integrate complex data to enable accurate and timely payments
- support integrity checks and auditable transactions, which will integrate data across the end-to-end process
- provide an enhanced security posture and increase the safety of information stored by the department, minimising the risk of exposure of sensitive data.

The EFS is a flexible, adaptable platform that enables data-driven decision making, and can be updated in a timely way to enable the department to administer over \$51 billion in education funding.

## Slide 14: how will the EFS be delivered

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## Slide 15: EFS delivery

The Education Funding System will be delivered incrementally, over 5 releases, between November 2025 and December 2026.

Providing transitional architecture that enables legacy systems, such as SchoolsHUB, to incrementally transition to the EFS, while maintaining delivery of accurate and timely payments, based on policy, legislative and program needs.

Each of the 5 releases iteratively delivers critical business capabilities for schools and higher education providers.

## Slide 16: what are the main changes?

[title slide – no content]

## Slide 17: EFS changes

The EFS will deliver:

- a single online platform for education providers across the school and higher education institutions
- an enhanced user experience, with self-service functionality, providing easily accessible information on funding, payments and data collections
- a more streamlined sign in process with enhanced security.

## Slide 18: EducationHUB

As part of the Education Funding System, the Department of Education will launch EducationHUB.gov.au.

EducationHUB will be a new dedicated website, which education providers will use to:

- find information about funding arrangements, legislation and policy
- obtain resources including training materials and user guides
- and most importantly, access the EFS.

Education providers will use EducationHUB to access the Education Funding System.

Over time, EducationHUB will evolve to become an entry point for all Department of Education providers, significantly streamlining the user experience across our complex stakeholder landscape.

As EducationHUB evolves, so too will the number of education services available.

## Slide 19: Digital ID

To improve security and make accessing the Education Funding System easier, we are introducing the use of a Digital ID. All EFS users will need a Digital ID to access the EFS.



Your Digital ID lets you prove who you are when logging into government online services. This replaces traditional passwords and multi-factor authentication with a more secure, Australian Government approved system.

myID is the Australian Government's Digital ID app.

myID makes it easier and more secure to sign into online government services and is currently used by over 13 million Australians to access over 150 government services online.

Once set up, you will be able to use myID to access EFS services. You won't need to remember or continually update your password.

## Slide 20: from SchoolsHUB to the EFS

The Education Funding System will progressively replace SchoolsHUB as the portal education providers use to manage their reporting with the Department of Education.

This will change the way that education providers engage with the department.

## Slide 21: Release 1 and approved authorities

Release 1 in November 2025 will change the way approved authorities transact with the Department of Education.

From November 2025 approved authorities will be able to:

- access the EFS via EducationHUB and will authenticate into the system using a Digital ID
- view their organisation and schools in the EFS but will continue to manage updates through SchoolsHUB.
- all data collections for schools will be submitted using the EFS, in line with existing data collection timeframes, commencing with the February 2026 address collection.
- all payments to AAs will be made from the EFS, in line with existing payment timeframes, commencing with the January 2026 recurrent funding payment (for government and non-government schools) and any relevant prescribed or special circumstances payments.
- AAs will be able to view the January 2026 payment details in the EFS from December 2025.

In summary, from Release 1 approved authorities can access the EFS in readiness to view the 2026 school payments and submit data as part of their funding requirements.

Additional system capabilities will be made available for AAs in Release 2.

## Slide 22: SchoolsHUB and Release 1

SchoolsHUB will remain available for approved authorities to view historical data and manage their organisation until Release 2. Following the second release, approved authorities will manage their organisation and schools in the EFS. Historical data will remain available in SchoolsHub.

From Release 3, Block Grant Authorities and non-Government Representative Bodies will commence using the EFS, with enhanced system capabilities rolled out over Release 4 and Release 5.



But until then, they will continue to engage with the department through SchoolsHUB and their existing business processes.

## Slide 23: It's time to get ready!

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## Slide 24: Digital ID call to action

Starting now will ensure you are ready to view your January 2026 payment advice and complete the February 2026 address collection on time.

Don't wait until it's time to submit your address collection to get started.

If you don't already have a myID, you'll need to set one up.

If you already have myID we recommend you check your current identity strength. You'll need at least a 'Standard' identity strength, although a 'Strong' identity strength is recommended when accessing online government services.

The principal authority of your organisation will need to link the ABN in RAM and invite individual users to act on behalf of the organisation. Individual users will then need to accept the invitation and link their myID in RAM.

User guides for each of these steps have been developed and are available on EFS pages of the Departments website and formal onboarding support will commence in October.

Once these steps are complete, you'll be ready to access the Education Funding System from November 2025.

Please note, myID and RAM are products provided by the Australian Taxation Office. And while user guides have been developed to assist you in setting up myID and RAM to access the EFS, sometimes there can be additional challenges to setting these up.

This might include having trouble finding the required identity documents for myID or no principal authority clearly identified against the ABN on the Australian Business Register for RAM.

If you encounter these issues, you'll need to contact the ATO to resolve them before accessing the Education Funding System.

We are here to help as much as we can, but technical issues related to Digital ID, myID, and/or RAM need to be directed to the ATO.

## Slide 25: what support is available?

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## Slide 26: EFS support

To support you through this transition a comprehensive communication and training campaign will commence from September 2025 and will be ongoing through to December 2026.

This engagement campaign is designed to proactively manage communications, and to promote stakeholder confidence in the lead up to each release.

Initial engagement activities will focus on supporting approved authorities ahead of the first system release.



We have developed a comprehensive engagement campaign designed to support you with the transition to the EFS.

Engagement throughout the campaign will include a series of:

- Online briefings
- Email updates
- Updates to information on the department's website, and
- User guides and training materials

## Slide 27: what's next for approved authorities?

Over the coming weeks and months, approved authorities will be supported to ensure they are aware of the EFS, understand the changes that will impact them, and are ready to successfully access the EFS following the November 2025 release.

Before the end of September approved authorities will receive an email notification and invitation to attend an online webinar that will detail the onboarding process.

This will include onboarding support materials that detail each of the steps AAs need to undertake to access the EFS for the first time and where to get support if needed.

## Slide 28: wrap up

The EFS is more than just another new platform – it's part of a whole-of-government shift towards enhanced online services.

We know the rollout of the EFS represents a significant level of change for both our business areas and our education providers.

Extensive engagement across the education sector is required to equip stakeholders to use EFS efficiently and accurately.

The Department of Education will engage directly with impacted stakeholders to ensure all users are supported as we incrementally transition from existing and legacy systems to the new Education Funding System.

We will provide targeted and frequent communication with users, well in advance of each release.

Change will be gradual – but support will be continuous.

## Slide 29: contact details

You can contact the department if you have questions or would like additional information at:  
[EFSengagement@education.gov.au](mailto:EFSengagement@education.gov.au)

For updates and range of resources, visit the Department's website.

We look forward to supporting you through this transition.

