

EDI and JSIF Funding

When the Minister makes a decision to close or merge schools, additional resourcing, paid for from the savings created by closures or mergers, is made available to strengthen students' education. This is known as the Education Development Initiative (EDI). This fact sheet provides information about how EDI funding for greater Christchurch schools affected by final decisions is generated and allocated, and how it can be used.

The EDI funding is made up of two parts – the EDI cash grant and Joint Schools Initiative funding (JSIF).

The EDI cash grant is intended to support the ongoing education of the students whose schools are closing or merging.

It can be used to:

- » manage the school closure/merger process
- » help transition students to their next school
- » for projects that focus on strengthening student achievement.

The Boards of the closing or merging schools are likely to signal how they would like the EDI cash grant generated by its school to be spent, for example, to help its students transition to their new school/s or to continue with a programme that had been successfully operating at the closing/merging school.

The EDI cash grant funding is 'owned' by the school where students enrol post merger or closure. It is to be used to strengthen education across the school, rather than just for the use of the students from the closed or merged schools. It can be used from the date the final decision is gazetted on receipt of an application and invoice.

All applications need to show how the additional funding will be used to support student learning.

Examples of some possible uses are:

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| » providing additional support for students who are finding the transition difficult | » support for drafting school curriculum documents |
| » additional ICT provision – hardware, cabling, software | » new uniform design and subsidy for new uniforms for students from closing or merging schools |
| » assessing and purchasing additional curriculum resources | » new school logo, signage and re-branding |
| » purchasing sports equipment | » assessing professional development needs and purchasing support. |
| » additional teacher or teacher aide resources for a period of time | |

Note: The EDI cash grant cannot be used to address property or transport issues or costs.



Joint school initiative funding (JSIF) is intended to enhance education provision across a number of schools and early childhood services in the learning community cluster.

It is 'owned' by the learning community cluster of the school/s that students enrol in following the closure or merger of their school.

It is to be used to strengthen education across the cluster rather than just for the use of the students from the closed or merged schools, or the school where they enrol.

Examples of some possible uses are:

- » support for student achievement data collection across the cluster
- » opportunities for classes across several schools to join shared extension programmes
- » transition programmes between early childhood, primary school, secondary school and tertiary
- » culturally based student development programmes
- » planning learning community cluster approach to student achievement records
- » assessing professional development needs across the cluster.

Note: JSIF cannot be used to address property or transport issues or costs.

How is EDI funding generated?

EDI funding is generated by the number of students on the roll at 1 July 2012¹ of the closing school or the smaller roll/s of two or more merging school/s.

EDI cash grant and JSIF funding is calculated using the figures in the table below:

	EDI cash grant	JSIF funding
No students left	\$10,000 only	\$2,850 only
1st – 10th students	\$10,000 each	\$2,850 each
11th – 20th students	\$8,500 each	\$2,430 each
21st – 50th students	\$5,500 each	\$1,570 each
51st – 100th students	\$3,500 each	\$1,000 each
101st – 200th students	\$3,000 each	\$860 each
201st and over	\$2,500 each	\$710 each

¹ July 2012 was the closest return to the day that consultation about closure or merger was initiated



How is EDI funding (cash grant and JSIF) allocated?

The funding available for the **EDI cash grant**² and **JSIF** respectively, is divided by the number of students on the roll/s of the closing or merging schools on the last day of term prior to closure/merger (per student funding).

The schools that enrol students from the closed or merged schools will be eligible for **EDI cash grant funding** (per student funding x number of students enrolled).

The learning community cluster of the school/s where student/s enrol, will be allocated the **JSIF funding** (per student funding x number of students enrolled in the cluster). One school will be the nominated fund holder.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) will be developed and signed by the Ministry and a:

- » closing school Board
- » merging school Board
- » Boards from schools where students from merging /closing schools enrol
- » nominated fund holder Boards for a learning community cluster (JSIF funding).

The MoA will in part detail the level and use of, and the likely timeframes in which, the EDI funding will be needed. Schools apply for the funding as they need it – the funding doesn't just get added to operational funding.

Notes:

- » Schools outside greater Christchurch that enrol students from the closed/merged schools will not be eligible for EDI funding.
- » The debt or surplus of each merging or closing school's operating account will be calculated.
 - In a merger any surplus is added to the newly merged school's operating account. Any deficit will be paid from the school's accounts but could be offset by sales of assets.
 - In a closure any surplus will be returned to the Crown and any deficit is a cost to the Crown.
- » Schools have six years from the date of closure/merger to access the EDI cash grant and JSIF funding.

Further information is available on the *Shaping Education* website www.shapingeducation.govt.nz



² Available EDI cash grant equals the generated amount less any committed prior to the closure/ merger.