



PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

Election Costing Request Form

Details of request	
Party:	Liberals/ Nationals
Name of Policy:	Specialist Subjects, Successful Students
Date of request:	10 March 2015

Description of policy	
Summary of policy (please attach copies of relevant policy documents):	Refer to Attachment A
What is the purpose or intention of the policy?	Take steps to increase the number of students studying maths, science and Asian language courses, and stretch high ability students through better links with industry, business and universities
Has the policy been publicly released yet?	

Your estimated costing of the policy ¹						
	2014/15 \$'000	2015/16 \$'000	2016/17 \$'000	2017/18 \$'000	4 Yr Total \$'000	Other years ² \$'000
Impact on General Government Sector (GGS) net operating result ³	-	4,150	2,158	2,212	8,519	
Impact on GGS capital expenditure ⁴						
If different from above, impact on total State Sector net financial liabilities ⁵						

¹ Amounts should be expressed in nominal dollars. GGS - General Government Sector.

² Please provide information on other years if spending occurs outside the forward estimate years and will be required to cost the policy.

³ Negative for a saving that reduces expenditure

⁴ Negative for a reduction in capital expenditure.

⁵ Only required if proposal is outside GGS. Negative for a reduction in net financial liabilities.

Note: Has the policy been costed by a third party?
If yes, can you provide a copy of this costing and its assumptions?

Key assumptions made in the policy	
Does the policy relate to a previous announcement? If yes, which announcement?	N/A
What assumptions have been made in deriving the financial impacts in your estimated costing? <i>(See checklist)</i>	See Attachments A & B
Is there a range for the costing or any sensitivity analysis that you have undertaken?	N/A
Are there associated savings, offsets or expenses? If yes, please provide details.	See Attachments A & B

Administration of policy	
Intended date of implementation:	1 July 2015
Intended duration of policy:	Over the forward estimates
Who will administer the policy (e.g. Government entity, non-government organisation, etc.)?	Education
Are there any specific administrative arrangements for the policy that need to be taken into account?	N/A
Are there transitional arrangements associated with policy implementation?	N/A

If the policy is mainly an expenditure⁶ commitment	
Demand driven or a capped amount:	See Attachments A & B
Eligibility criteria or thresholds:	See Attachments A & B

If the policy is mainly a revenue commitment	
Transaction based or capped:	
Thresholds and/or exemptions:	
Collection method:	
Additional expenditure associated with collection:	

⁶ Expenditure is operating expenses, e.g. salaries, interest cost and grants. Expenditures are fully included in the impact on operating balance.

If the policy is mainly a capital costs⁷ commitment	
Type of work, size and capacity:	
Proposed start and completion date of work:	
Intended construction schedule/cashflow:	
Offsetting expenditure savings:	
Associated asset sell off (if any):	
On-going maintenance, depreciation and operational expenses:	
Third party funding involvement:	

Checklist for key assumptions (please be comprehensive and include all relevant assumptions). Assumptions could include, but are not limited to, questions such as:

- What is the expected community impact?
- How many people will be affected by the policy?
- What is the likely take up or other behavioural response you expect?
- Is there a cap on total spending proposed, a funding formula, resource agreement or other mechanism of this nature associated with the policy?
- Will third parties have a role in funding or delivering the policy (e.g. Commonwealth Government)?
- Will funding/program cost require indexation?
 - If yes, do you have any assumptions about the index that should be applied?
- What assumptions have you made about costs of administering the policy?
 - For example, will additional staff be needed in the agency responsible for the policy?
 - If you have assumptions on this, how many and at what approximate levels?
 - Are there other administrative resources required?
 - Alternatively, are you assuming administrative costs will be absorbed within the agency?

Please note that:

- The costing will be on the basis of information provided in this costing request.
- The PBO is not bound to accept the assumptions provided by the requester. If there is a material difference in the assumptions used by the PBO, the PBO will consult with the requester in advance of the costing being completed.
- Where the details of the policy costing request differ from the announced policy, the costing will be on the basis of the information provided in the costing request.
- These guidelines are intended to facilitate requests for costing election policies. Persons preparing such requests who wish further assistance are invited to contact the staff of the Parliamentary Budget Office.

⁷ Capital costs differ from expenditure in that only depreciation will be included in the impact on operating balance. The capital cost of the asset to be acquired will however be included in net financial liabilities.



A re-elected Baird Government will equip our students with the skills they need for the future

The Baird Government is committed to ensuring our young people have the skills they need to participate in the fastest growing economy in the country.

The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government has created more than 100,000 new jobs over the last four years, and we want to ensure every young person in NSW has the skills they need to take up the opportunities in the fastest growing economy in the country.

It is estimated that 75% of the fastest growing occupations in Australia require science, technology, engineering & maths (STEM) skills.

The Baird Government will retrain 320 teachers as specialists in maths and science as part of a number of changes to improve the quality of teaching and student results in this critical area.

This may include including offering scholarships, study leave and/or a guarantee of future employment.

The Baird Government will provide opportunities for students to study languages not offered at their home school through the new virtual high school.

The newly established expert NSW Languages Advisory Panel, with high level representation from key education sectors, community organisations, industry and business will:

- conduct research and devise specific proposals to promote the value of languages learning;
- provide incentives for, and remove barriers to, languages learning;

A re-elected Baird Government will:

- ✓ Retrain 320 teachers as specialists in maths and science
- ✓ Provide greater student access to languages through the new virtual high school
- ✓ Develop partnerships with universities, training organisations, business and industry to mentor and stretch high ability students
- ✓ Upgrade science labs at 50 schools

- consider whether HSC students who study a language should receive ATAR bonus points; and
- develop a strategy to increase the supply of specialist primary school languages teachers, including consideration of a specialist languages strand within initial teacher education generalist primary qualifications.

High ability students will be stretched by mentoring programs with universities, training organisations, business and industry.

Stronger links with universities and training organisations will stretch high ability students and enable them to attempt tertiary subjects which may lead to early/pre-selection entrance schemes and/or advanced avenues of specialist study.

Science labs at 50 schools will also be upgraded through an investment of \$20 million over 4 years to ensure students can access state-of-the-art equipment and resources.

Back The Baird Plan and keep NSW working.

2015 Election Policy Costing

Proposal Title: Specialist Subjects, Successful Students

Lead Agency: Board of Studies, Teacher and Education Standards (DEC cluster)

General Government Sector Impacts

	2014-15 \$'000	2015-16 \$'000	2016-17 \$'000	2017-18 \$'000	4 Year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. Depreciation)	0	4,150	2,158	2,212	8,519
Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0
Less: Agency Offsets	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Revenue	0	0	0	0	0
Net Operating Result:	0	-4,150	-2,158	-2,212	-8,519
Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Offsets	0	0	0	0	0
Net Capital Expenditure:	0	0	0	0	0
Net Lending/Borrowing:	0	-4,150	-2,158	-2,212	-8,519
Net Financial Liabilities:	0	4,150	6,308	8,519	

Notes and costing assumptions used:

<p>The policy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the number of students undertaking science and maths, and Asian language course; and • stretch high ability students through better links with industry, business and universities. <p>The policy actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • training more science and maths teachers; • upgrading science labs at 50 schools through an investment of \$20 million over 4 years to ensure students can access state-of-the-art equipment and resources (funded with existing resources); • providing greater student access to languages through a new virtual high school; and • developing partnerships with universities, training organisations, business and industry to mentor and stretch high ability students. <p>The funding to meet the costs of the policy indicated above will be drawn from BOSTES resources across the forward estimates. As a consequence the budget impact will be the extent of cash used by BOSTES.</p>
