



**Wednesday, 30 August 2023**

Dear Council Members,

**HOME AFFAIRS FUNDING PROGRAM**

On Monday 28 August 2023, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, The Hon Andrew Giles announced the \$15m Funding Program for Community Languages Schools. The program is for two years. (See Media Release below)

The grants program will go live this Friday, September 1, 2023.

The announcement was made in Perth at the Italo-Australian Welfare Centre and hosted by Community Languages Australia, Deputy Chair and President of Community Languages WA Enzo Sirna OAM.

Community Languages Australia Executive Director Stefan Romaniw OAM attended the event in Perth, participated in the media conference and thanked the Minister and the Australian Government for the support.

State and Territory Associations should contact their Department of Home Affairs office and arrange information sessions as required.

There will be three tiers of funding depending on student numbers.

- Tier 1 – New schools and those not associated community language association one-off payment of \$6,000
- Tier 2 - Schools with less than 50 students (one-off payment of \$15,000)
- Tier 3 - Schools with over 50 students (one-off payment of \$24,000)

Kind regards,  
Stefan Romaniw, OAM  
Executive Director



**THE HON. ANDREW GILES MP**  
**MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURAL**  
**AFFAIRS**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

August 28 2023

**\$15 MILLION INVESTMENT IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION FOR AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE**

The Albanese Labor Government is investing \$15 million over two years to support kids wanting to learn a language other than English, today announcing the delivery of its election commitment to establish a new Community Language Schools grant program.

Grants of up to \$30,000 over two years will be available to eligible community language schools, enabling them to expand classes to pre-school-aged children, purchase new resources, build quality learning environments, cover costs such as rent or teacher training, or provide fee-relief for disadvantaged students.

In Perth today for the announcement, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs will visit one of Western Australia's 59 community language schools and meet with teachers and students at the Italo-Australian Welfare & Cultural Centre.

Community language schools play a crucial role in preserving cultural heritage and fostering a bond between young learners and the languages spoken by their parents or grandparents. With a history dating back to 1857, there are now more than 700 language schools operating across Australia, teaching over 100,000 students in over 85 languages.

From Friday September 1, further information about the program, and an easy to complete application form will go live on GrantConnect, the Government's grant information system, [www.grants.gov.au](http://www.grants.gov.au). Applications for the Community Language Schools Grant will be open from September 1 to October 9 2023.

**Attributable to Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, Andrew Giles:**

"Languages help connect Australians to each other, and to the world. The Albanese Labor Government is committed to strengthening our social connections and facilitating the exchange of cultures by making it easier to learn a second language.

“This important announcement will ensure that as our diverse community grows, our youngest multicultural Australians will be supported to learn the language and culture of their parents and grandparents.

“The younger someone starts learning another language, the easier it will be for them to pick it up, so we’ve included funding to support classes for pre-school aged children. It’s an investment in their future, in Australia’s future as a proudly multicultural society.”

**Attributable to Executive Director of Community Languages Australia, Stefan Romaniw OAM:**

“Community Languages Australia welcomes the announcement of this funding program supporting community language schools (CLS).

“CLS plays a significant role in the delivery of language education programs nationally. This funding will be of great assistance to schools in covering operational costs.

“CLA looks forward to an ongoing strong relationship with Minister Giles and his Department.”

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

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