

Enhancing Quality

The Enhancing Quality program provides access to funding for Flying Start partner preschools to undertake learning and development at a service level that aligns to their strategic quality objectives.

Scope

Enhancing Quality funding is for all Flying Start partner services in 2027, including Long Day Care partners and integrated hubs.

Partner services will receive an allocation of Enhancing Quality funding, based on the size of their service. Funding amounts will vary based on the service's socio-economic index and the remoteness of the service, as determined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas 'SEIFA') and Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia 'ARIA+').

About the program

Enhancing Quality will assist services to purchase high-quality professional learning and development that supports the quality of the service.

There are 3 key focus areas for the Enhancing Quality program, based on the National Quality Standard:

- QA1 - Educational program and practice
- QA5 - Relationships with children
- QA7 - Leadership.

The Program is a trial pilot for the 2027 year.

Key outcomes

The program will support lifting service quality, the retention of the early childhood workforce, and improving developmental outcomes for children across language, cognitive, social, emotional, and physical domains.

Types of support / eligibility / funding requirements

Services are able to use their Enhancing Quality allocation to purchase professional learning that aligns to the Framework and is approved in their Partnership Plan.

Refer to the [Flying Start Policy and Funding Guide](#), or the [Enhancing Quality Guidelines](#), for funding requirements, spending rules and funding restrictions.



Exceptions / special circumstances

Waivers to the spending rules may be sought under exceptional circumstances and should be discussed with the OECD Local Teams during the planning process.

Integrated Hubs

Integrated Hubs operate under the same Enhancing Quality framework and spending rules as all other services. Integrated Hubs have an additional allocation which should be utilised towards supporting the service to enhance collaboration and integration.

How to fill out the Flying Start Partnership Plan

Enhancing Quality is planned within Priority 2: Committed to Quality. Planning should focus on:

- utilising the Professional Learning and Development Framework to determine goals and identify high-quality professional learning options
- supporting a whole-of-service approach to professional development
- how the service will implement and critically reflect on the learning that is undertaken
- the outcomes the service is seeking to improve.

Services should begin with the participation outcomes they are seeking to achieve rather than the individual items they intend to purchase.

Detailed planning guidance is available in the [Professional Learning and Development Framework](#).

Reporting and record keeping

Throughout the year, consider what information you may need to collect to demonstrate how funding has supported the outcomes identified in the Partnership Plan. Reporting may include information about:

- professional learning and development undertaken
- physical or digital resources purchased (where appropriate)
- administration activities associated with planning, coordinating and managing approved professional learning activities
- staff backfill to enable participation in professional learning, implementation activities and reflective practice
- supplier travel and accommodation costs where these form part of the professional learning delivery cost.



Where to go for more information

- [2027 Policy and Funding Guide](#)
- [Professional Learning and Development Framework](#)
- [Enhancing Quality in the Flying Start Partnership Plan - Examples](#)

