HIGHLIGHTS (cont)

• $56 million for the Back-to-School Allowance.
• $6 million for targeted Youth Programs.
• $3 million for TAFE Capped Scholarships ($11.9 million over the next four years)
• $1.9 million for the TAFE Youth at Risk Program ($7.5 million over the next four years).
• $8.4 million to continue the trial of a “priority action schools” program, to provide intensive support to specifically targeted primary, central and high schools.
• $2.6 million to continue the pilot of reduced class sizes in designated schools, in Kindergarten to Year 3, to be independently monitored and evaluated.
• $585.5 million to support students in non-government schools.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

• DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
• NSW TAFE COMMISSION
• BOARD OF STUDIES
• ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

LIFELONG LEARNING

Deputy Premier
Minister for Education and Training

LIFELONG LEARNING

New South Wales Government
Education and training are key priorities for the Carr Government. In the 2003/04 State Budget, the Government is building for the future with its focus on technology, school improvements, quality education, training and employment opportunities to assist people to improve their lives and secure their futures.

The 2003/04 State Budget provides a record $8.7 billion for the Education and Training Portfolio. The budget focuses on improving facilities, resources and programs for more than 2 million students in schools, Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education.

Since 1995, total funding for the portfolio has increased by almost $2,900 million, an increase of 50 per cent.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- $6,618.7 million in total recurrent funding to schools.
- $1,344.6 million in recurrent expenditure for TAFE NSW.
- $24.7 million in 2003-2004 for recurrent and capital funding to progressively reduce class sizes in Government schools for students enrolled in Kindergarten to Year 2 ($329 million over the next four years).
- $257.8 million in recurrent and capital funding for technology and computers in schools ($965.2 million over the next four years).
- $139 million will be provided over the next four financial years for teacher professional development. When fully implemented, this initiative will amount to $144 million over four school years, including the additional $44 million Government initiative.
- $368 million for school capital works projects, as part of a four year $1.2 billion Schools Improvement Package, including $333 million for new and continuing projects, over $34 million for new projects under a separate funding arrangement with the private sector and $1 million for the upgrading of the National Art School.
- $72 million for TAFE NSW capital works.
- $92.1 million for recurrent and capital funding to the Board of Studies.
- $195.9 million in recurrent funding for the Grants program supporting external vocational education and tertiary services.
- $186.1 million for the school maintenance program, which includes over $15.4 million provided to schools as part of global funding arrangements.
- $35 million for TAFE Building Maintenance.
- $126 million to target literacy and numeracy in schools ($492 million over the next four years).
- $280.4 million for grants to schools under global funding.
- $589.5 million for special education in government schools.
- $73 million for dedicated rural education programs.
- $63.4 million for socio-economically disadvantaged students.
- $39.2 million for Aboriginal education.
- $87.7 million for students from non English speaking backgrounds.

**LIFELONG LEARNING**

continued next page