

## **EQUITY PROGRAMMES**

**April 2003  
Amended 2008**

**POLICY:** ICPA seeks equity programmes to improve educational participation and achievement by students disadvantaged by restricted access to social, cultural and educational activities and services as a result of their geographic isolation.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. That the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments provide adequate funding to schools to allow equity programmes to continue on an equitable basis.
2. That guidelines, recommendations and reports be supplied to all equity committees, including parent and community representatives, who are charged with management and implementation of programmes.
3. That priority funding be given to support the implementation of innovative programmes in rural and remote schools, and schools of distance education.
4. That equity programme funding should be weighed more heavily for small rural and remote school communities, and schools of distance education, or where normal services are unavailable, to reflect the geographic isolation of their students.
5. That equal emphasis be placed on programmes for students in years R-12, unless there is specific funding to address special issues (eg school retention rates).
6. That there be community participation in local, regional and state committees with ICPA representation at all appropriate levels of management within the programmes.
7. That the South Australian education authorities, including non-government systems, be encouraged to adopt successful programme initiatives which have become recognised as essential educational support services in rural and remote schools and schools of distance education.
8. That Country Areas Program funding be distributed to schools, applying the original purpose of this funding, ie, to improve the educational opportunities, participation and personal development of primary and secondary students disadvantaged as a result of their geographic isolation.