TeacherPay AU

Catholic Education SA (CESA) pay scale 2026

Figures checked 17 October 2026
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Catholic Education SA (CESA) teachers earn $82,659 at GT1 to $116,160 at PT5, on rates last raised in May 2024. That is the lowest Catholic teacher scale in Australia and below SA public schools ($84,971 to $123,236 from 8 May 2026). CESA has offered 3% and 3% then matching public rates; the IEU is claiming 6% a year.

CESA teacher salaries, rates from May 2024 (full-time, before tax, excluding super)

Step	May 2022 (official)	Current (from May 2024)
GT1 (4-year-trained entry)	$77,165	$82,659
GT2 (5-year-trained entry)	$81,417	About $87,214
GT3	$85,712	About $91,815
PT1	$90,043	About $96,454
PT2	$94,409	About $101,131
PT3	$98,811	About $105,846
PT4	$103,251	About $110,602
PT5 (top)	$108,439	$116,160

The May 2022 column is from the agreement's Appendix A. GT1 and PT5 current rates are from the IEU SA. The middle steps marked 'about' are our estimate (May 2022 rates x 1.04 x 1.03), which reproduces both IEU endpoints exactly but is not an official CESA schedule. Advanced Skill Teacher closed at the 2025 school service date.

CESA allowances

Allowance	Amount	Notes
Highly Accomplished Teacher	$7,000 a year	On top of salary
Lead Teacher	$12,000 a year	On top of salary
Position of Responsibility 1 to 4	$3,437 to $22,245	Rates as printed in the 2020 agreement; current amounts are likely higher but we have no official figure
Assistant principal, primary (APRIM)	$11,241 to $37,120	As printed in the agreement

CESA vs SA public schools vs Lutheran schools, as at 17 October 2026

Point on the scale	CESA (May 2024)	SA public (8 May 2026)	Lutheran SA (Aug 2026)
Graduate	$82,659 (GT1)	$84,971 (Step 1)	$89,558 (GT1)
Top incremental step	$116,160 (PT5)	$123,236 (Step 9)	$123,993 (PT6)
Highly Accomplished	$7,000 allowance on top of salary	$133,736 (HAT)	$134,535 (HAT)
Lead Teacher	$12,000 allowance on top of salary	$141,365 (LT)	$142,211 (Lead)

SA public rates from the SA School and Preschool Education Staff EA 2024, Schedule 1.1. Lutheran rates from the Lutheran Schools SA EA 2024 (AE525038). Gap at the top step: $7,076 behind public schools.

CESA bargaining timeline, 2026

Date	Event
May 2026	IEU SA seeks conciliation.
7 Aug 2026	IEU: 'Catholic EB24, it's more than just numbers'.
About 22 Sep 2026	CESA applies to the FWC to put the agreement to a staff vote without the bargaining representatives' agreement.
23 Sep 2026	Protected industrial action across Catholic schools, including a stop-work at Rostrevor College.

We have found no verified news after 23 September 2026, and the outcome of CESA's application is not known. Check the IEU SA website for the latest.

Sources: South Australian Catholic Schools Enterprise Agreement 2020 (PDF) (https://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/files/86978/EA_2020.pdf); IEU SA: Same work, different pay (https://ieusa.org.au/same-work-different-pay-catholic-teachers-in-sa-lowest-on-national-scale/); IEU SA: Catholic EB24 compare the pair (PDF) (https://ieusa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/260918-Cath-EB24_Compare-the-Pair-DFE_full.pdf); IEU SA: Members show their numbers in Catholic industrial action (https://ieusa.org.au/members-show-

their-numbers-in-catholic-industrial-action/); IEU SA: Focusing on the facts (https://ieusa.org.au/focusing-on-the-facts-will-get-the-agreement-across-the-line/); Fair Work Commission: Lutheran Schools SA EA 2024, AE525038 (PDF) (https://www.fwc.gov.au/documents/agreements/fwa/ae525038.pdf)

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