

Portfolio glossary

Term	Meaning
Accrual Accounting	The system of accounting where items are brought to account and included in the financial statements as they are earned or incurred, rather than as they are received or paid.
Accumulated Depreciation	The aggregate depreciation recorded for a particular depreciating asset.
Activities	The actions/functions performed by entities to deliver government policies.
Additional Estimates	Where amounts appropriated at Budget time are insufficient, Parliament may appropriate more funds to Portfolios through the Additional Estimates Appropriation Acts.
Administered Items	The expenses, revenues, assets or liabilities managed by agencies on behalf of the Commonwealth. Agencies do not control administered items. Administered expenses include grants, subsidies and benefits. In many cases, administered expenses fund the delivery of third-party outputs.
Administrative Arrangements Order (AAO)	The functions and activities of the government are administered in accordance with an administrative arrangements order (AAO) issued from time to time by the Government and signed by the Governor-General. An AAO establishes the principal matters or government outcomes to be dealt with by each Department of state, and the Acts of Parliament to be administered by each minister.
Administered Capital Budgets (ACB)	Administered Capital Budgets (ACB) are provided to non-corporate entities (as an equity injection) that receive government funding to meet the costs associated with the replacement of minor assets (assets valued at \$10 million or less) or maintenance costs that are eligible to be capitalised.
Appropriation	An authorisation by Parliament to spend moneys from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for a particular purpose. Annual Appropriation Acts provide annual funding for government operations and programs; for investment in assets; or to reduce liabilities. Bills proposing appropriations for the forthcoming financial year are introduced into Parliament on

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	Budget Night. The annual Appropriation Bills propose specified amounts of appropriation for expenditure by entities to carry out the government’s outcomes.
Budget Paper 1 (BP1)	The Budget Strategy and Outlook – provides an overview of the economic and fiscal outlook, summarises the government’s fiscal strategy, and outlines key Budget priorities.
Budget Paper 2 (BP2)	The Budget Measures – provides comprehensive information on all government decisions that involve changes to its receipt and payment activities since the last Economic and Fiscal Update.
Budget Paper 4 (BP4)	Agency Resourcing – shows, for each entity, estimated resourcing by type of appropriation, estimated expenses for each special appropriation act, estimated balances and flows for all special accounts, and estimated average staffing levels in the public sector.
Capital Expenditure	Expenditure by an agency on capital projects, for example, purchasing a building.
Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF)	Section 81 of the Australian Constitution stipulates that all revenue raised or money received by the Commonwealth forms the one Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF). The CRF is not a bank account. The Official Public Account reflects most of the operations of the CRF.
Corporate Commonwealth Entity	A Commonwealth entity that is a body corporate under the <i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i> (PGPA Act).
Departmental Capital Budget	Departmental Capital Budget (DCB) are provided to non-corporate Entities (as an equity injection) that receive government funding to meet the costs associated with the replacement of minor assets (assets valued at \$10 million or less) or maintenance costs that are eligible to be capitalised. The funding for depreciation, amortisation and make-good expenses was replaced with a DCB in the 2010–11 Budget.

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Departmental Item	Resources (expenses, revenues, assets and liabilities) that an entity controls directly. This includes outsourced activities funded and controlled by the entity. Examples of Departmental items include entity running costs, accrued employee entitlements and net appropriations. A Departmental item is a component of a Departmental program.
Depreciation	Apportionment of an asset's capital value as an expense over its estimated useful life to take account of normal usage, obsolescence, or the passage of time.
Entities	Commonwealth entities and Commonwealth companies as defined under the PGPA Act that are within the General Government Sector (GGS).
Equity or Net Assets	Residual interest in the assets of an entity after deduction of its liabilities.
Estimated Actual	Details of the estimated final figures for 2022-23 as included in the Budget documentation. As the Budget may be released before all 2022-23 Annual Reports are tabled in Parliament, the figures for 2022-23 remain estimates.
Executive Agency	An agency designated, in an executive order made by the Governor-General-in-Council, as separate from a Department, for staffing and accountability and reporting purposes, under the <i>Public Service Act 1999</i> .
Expense	Total value of all of the resources consumed in producing goods and services or the loss of future economic benefits in the form of reductions in assets or increases in liabilities of an entity.
Expenses not requiring appropriation in the Budget year	Includes expenses where there is: a government policy not to fund those expenses within the year; where the funding has been provided in a prior year but the expense will be incurred in the current year; items which do not or will not involve a cash flow impact (such as bad debt expenses); or where the expenses reflect the usage of services or resources provided free of charge. From the 2018-19 MYEFO, movements of Administered funds that can be met from a prior year appropriation are not re-appropriated in the year required. Such expenses are reflected as 'Expenses not requiring appropriation in the Budget year'.

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Fair Value	Valuation methodology: The amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm’s length transaction. The fair value can be affected by the conditions of the sale, market conditions and the intentions of the asset holder.
Fiscal Balance	An accrual measure that shows whether the government has to borrow from financial markets to cover its activities. Fiscal balance includes revenue, less operating expenses, plus revaluation adjustments, plus capital adjustments.
Forward Estimates Period	The three years following the Budget year. For example, for the 2025-26 Budget year, 2026-27 is forward year 1, 2027-28 is forward year 2 and 2028-29 is forward year 3.
General Government Sector (GGS)	A Government Finance Statistics (GFS) classification of all entities that are controlled and largely funded by the Australian Government. The GGS provides public services that are mainly non-market in nature and for the collective consumption of the community, or involve the transfer or redistribution of income. These services are largely financed through taxes and other compulsory levies, user charging and external funding. This sector comprises all government Departments, offices and some other bodies.
Government Finance Statistics (GFS)	A reporting framework that is a specialised statistical system designed to support economic analysis of the public sector. It allows for comprehensive assessments of the economic impact of government and is consistent with international statistical standards of the International Monetary Fund and the System of National Accounts.
Measure	A new policy or savings decision of the government with financial impacts on the government's underlying cash balance; fiscal balance; operating balance; headline cash balance; net debt or net worth.
Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO)	The MYEFO provides an update of the government's Budget estimates by examining expenses and revenues in the year to date, as well as provisions for new decisions that have been taken since the Budget. The report provides updated information to allow the assessment of the government’s fiscal performance

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	against the fiscal strategy set out in its current fiscal strategy statement.
National Partnership payments	Commonwealth payments to states and territories made in accordance with Part 4 of the <i>Federal Financial Relations Act 2009</i> (FFR Act). The Minister may determine that an amount specified in the determination is to be paid to a State specified in the determination for the purpose of making a grant of financial assistance to support the delivery by the State of specified outputs or projects; or facilitate reforms by the State; or reward the State for nationally significant reforms.
Non-Corporate Commonwealth Entity	A Commonwealth entity that is not a body corporate.
Official Public Account (OPA)	The Commonwealth's central bank account. The OPA is one of a group of linked bank accounts, referred to as the Official Public Account Group of Accounts. OPAs are maintained with the Reserve Bank of Australia, as required by subsection 53(3) of the PGPA Act.
Outcomes	The Government's objectives in each Portfolio area. Outcomes are desired results, impacts or consequences for the Australian community as influenced by the actions of the Commonwealth. Actual outcomes are assessments of the results or impacts actually achieved.
Parameters	Agency funding is routinely adjusted for changes in parameters to ensure agency funding keeps pace with forecast changes in the economy. The Department of the Treasury calculates parameter rates, which factor in various economic indicators including inflation, production levels and exchange rates.
Portfolio Budget Statements (PB Statements)	Budget related paper detailing Budget initiatives and explanations of appropriations specified by outcome and program by each directly appropriated entity within a Portfolio.
Program	Activity that delivers benefits, services or transfer payments to individuals, industry and/or the community as a whole, with the aim of achieving the intended result specified in an outcome statement.

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Program support	The entity’s running costs allocated to a program. This is funded through an entity’s departmental appropriations. departmental appropriation splits and totals are indicative estimates and may change in the course of the Budget year as government priorities change.
<i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i> (PGPA Act)	The PGPA Act is the primary piece of Commonwealth resource management legislation. The PGPA Act establishes a coherent system of governance and accountability for public resources, with an emphasis on planning, performance and reporting. It applies to all Commonwealth entities and Commonwealth companies.
Revenue	Total value of resources earned or received to cover the production of goods and services.
Right of use asset	An asset that represents a lessee’s right to use an asset that is the subject of a lease, for the lease term.
Special Account	Special accounts allow money in the CRF to be acknowledged as set-aside for a particular purpose. Amounts credited to a Special Account may only be spent for the purposes of the Special Account. Special Accounts can only be established by a written determination of the Finance Minister (s78 PGPA Act) or through an Act of Parliament (referred to in s80 of the PGPA Act).
Special Appropriations (including Standing Appropriations)	Authority within an Act (other than the annual Appropriation Acts) to spend money from the CRF for particular purposes. For special appropriations, the authority to withdraw funds from the CRF does not generally cease at the end of the financial year. Standing appropriations are a sub-category consisting of ongoing special appropriations - the amount appropriated will depend on circumstances specified in the legislation.
Statutory Authority	An Australian Government body established through legislation for a public purpose. This can include a body headed by, or comprising, an office holder, a commission or a governing board.
Underlying cash balance	A cash measure that shows whether the government has to borrow from financial markets to cover its activities. Underlying cash balance generally includes

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operating receipts, less operating payments, less investment in non-financial assets.

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
AAO	Administrative Arrangements Order
AASB	Australian Accounting Standards Board
ABC	Australian Broadcasting Corporation
ACB	Administered Capital Budget
ACMA	Australian Communications and Media Authority
ADS-B	Automatic Dependent Surveillance - Broadcast
AFTRS	Australian Film, Television and Radio School
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
ANMM	Australian National Maritime Museum
ARTC	Australian Rail Track Corporation
ATSB	Australian Transport Safety Bureau
CALD	Culturally and linguistically diverse
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
Capt.	Captain
CCE	Corporate Commonwealth Entity
CDAB	Collection Development Acquisition Budget
CRF	Consolidated Revenue Fund
CTV	Connected Televisions
DCB	Departmental Capital Budget
Department	The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts
FTA	Free-to-air

Acronym	Meaning
GHz	Gigahertz
GST	Goods and Services Tax
Hon	Honourable
HSRA	High Speed Rail Authority
IA	Infrastructure Australia
MHz	Megahertz
MYEFO	Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook
NAA	National Archives of Australia
NAIF	Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility
NBN	National Broadband Network
NBN Co	NBN Co Limited
NCA	National Capital Authority
nfp	not for publication
NFSA	National Film and Sound Archive of Australia
NGA	National Gallery of Australia
NLA	National Library of Australia
NMA	National Museum of Australia
NPGA	National Portrait Gallery of Australia
NTC	National Transport Commission
OPA	Official Public Account
OPH	Old Parliament House
PB Statements	Portfolio Budget Statements
PFAS	Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
PGPA Act	<i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i>

Acronym	Meaning
Prof.	Professor
PSM	Public Service Medal
ROU	Right of Use
SBS	Special Broadcasting Service Corporation
SOETM	Services for Other Entities and Trust Moneys
Treasury	The Department of the Treasury
VAST	Viewer Access Satellite Television
WSA Co	WSA Co Limited