

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Inquiry into the Social Security Amendment (Income Support for Regional Students)
Bill 2010**

DEEWR Question No. SIH - H1

Senator Nash asked on 17 December 2010, EEWL Hansard page 45.

Question

Ms Milliken – The changes are in their early days. But for a family with two dependent children living away from home, for example, under the previous arrangements for student income support, for a family with a child aged 17 and another aged 21, both away from home, the parental income cut-out point – the point at which they would no longer be eligible for Youth Allowance at the dependent rate – was \$76,000. From January 2011, because there is an increase in rates at that time, the cut-out point will be \$146,545. That means that in a family of two children, they will receive a part-rate, at least, of student income support, where those young people live away from home, up to a family income of \$146, 454. Those children receiving at least a part rate of student income support at the dependent rate would also be eligible for the Student Start-Up Scholarship and also for the Relocation Scholarship, if living from home. Senator NASH - On that 146 000 figure, what would the part rate be? Ms Milliken – At the 146 000 it is the very end of the – Senator NASH – I understand that, but how much would it be? Ms MILLIKEN – It would be close to a dollar or two of student income support. I do not have the specific amount – Senator NASH – You can take it on notice. Ms Milliken – It will be a very small amount at the end of the spectrum, but they would receive the full amount of student start up and relocation scholarships. Senator NASH – I understand that. I just wanted to get the rate.

Answer

Payment rate for two dependent Youth Allowance recipients attending university and living away from home with Parental Income of \$146 000 (rates as of 1 January 2011):

Age	Youth Allowance Rate	Student Start-up Scholarship	Relocation Scholarship	Rent Assistance[^]
17 years	\$1.74/fortnight	\$2914 (2 payments of \$1097)	\$4124*	Up to \$115.20/fortnight
21 years	\$1.74/fortnight	\$2914 (2 payments of \$1097)	\$1031**	Up to \$115.20/fortnight

* Assumes that it is the first year of living away from home to study.

**Assumes subsequent year of living away from home to study.

Students qualifying for Youth Allowance are also eligible to receive the Student Start-up Scholarship and a Relocation Scholarship if they need to move away from home to study. Students living away from home may also be eligible for Rent Assistance.

Fares allowance is payable for help with the cost of travel between the student's permanent home and where they are residing while undertaking their study.