

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 104

Topic: Better Start for Children with a Disability

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Fifield asked:

What are the Government's plans to assist with early intervention for children who have other intellectual disabilities? E.g. rare conditions?

Answer:

Children with disabilities other than those identified for the Better Start initiative, and their families, may be entitled to receive assistance from a range of other Australian Government programs. These include Carer Allowance and Carer Payment, and access to a range of allied health services funded by Medicare through the Chronic Disease Management scheme and the Better Access to Psychiatrists, Psychologists and General Practitioners scheme.

The 2011-12 Budget also includes a new initiative managed by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. The *More Support for Children with Disabilities* initiative will commence in 2012 and will deliver new services, equipment and in-class support for students with disabilities. Detailed information about this can be found at http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Garrett/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_110510_190511.aspx