

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015**

Outcome: Higher Education, Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000170

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

doubtful debts

Question

The Department expects doubtful debts to rise from \$1.4 billion this year to \$2.3 billion in 2018. How much of this increase is a result of debts incurred by students undertaking VET courses?

Answer

The debts incurred from each of the HELP schemes (HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP, OS-HELP, SA-HELP and VET FEE-HELP) contribute to a person's accumulated HELP debt and are unable to be disaggregated by type of scheme. It is therefore not possible to separately identify the contribution of VET FEE-HELP loans to debt not expected to be repaid.