

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000232

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing.

NCCD process - identification of additional students with disability

Question

Can the Department confirm that if additional students with disability are identified, or if students with higher needs are identified as part of the NCCD process, funding to support them will come from the existing allocation for students with a disability, and that there will be no additional funding above what is allocated in the forward estimates?

Answer

From 2016, for the first time ever, Commonwealth funding will be informed by the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). This means all students with disability will be funded on the same basis, regardless of the state or territory in which they live.

The impact upon the allocation of funding for students with disability will be able to be determined in late 2015, after the completion of the 2015 NCCD, the first year in which all schools across Australia will participate in the collection.

In the meanwhile, at the request of states and territories, Commonwealth funding for students with disability is currently based on each individual state or territory government's definition of student with disability.

While the Australian Government provides substantial funding for students with disability in both government and non-government schools, state and territory governments also contribute significant funding for students with disability in schools (approximately two-thirds overall).