

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Higher Education Research and International**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000105**

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing.

***Student teacher practicum placements***

**Question**

1. Currently – how are student teacher practicum placements funded?
  - a. What is the value of the payment provided to the school by the university? Does the university always pay or are there instances where the school/supervising teacher does not receive support?
  - b. Are there any instances where students have to pay this?
  - c. Do universities receive a special payment from the Commonwealth to facilitate practicums? Is there a part of commonwealth student funding that is – at least notionally – set aside for practicums?

**Answer**

Under the Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS), in 2016 higher education providers receive \$10,196 per Commonwealth supported place (full-time equivalent) in teacher education units of study. The CGS funding amount for teacher education unit includes \$858 to assist higher education providers with the cost associated with the provision of teacher practicum placements.

CGS funding agreements stipulate that the higher education providers must use the practicum amount only for these purposes. It is up to universities to determine the best way to use these funds in order to support practicum placements.

The department is not aware of any instances where a student would be required to pay for a practicum placement.