

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EM0593_15

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

Stream 1 and 2 Newstart clients

What sort of things will these clients be expected to do with their JSA provider? How much funding will JSA providers receive to support these clients? Could this money be used to help people with food, rent or bills?

Answer

Job seekers subject to the Stronger Participation Incentives for Job Seekers aged Under 30 measure will be expected to maintain monthly contact with their Job Services Australia Providers, increasing the frequency with which the providers can monitor the job seekers' job search progress, and provide assistance in getting a job.

As a result, Job Services Australia providers will receive higher service fees for Stream 1 Job Seekers (Stream 2 Job Seekers already have minimum monthly contracts). Increased funding will also be provided for the expansion to Work for the Dole, and for subsidising work placements for under 30s. Funding will also be provided to compensate job seekers for relocation costs.

The following additional funding has been provided to Job Services Australia providers over the Forward Estimates:

ELEMENT	COST (Million)
Service Fees for monthly contacts for job seekers in Stream 1	\$105.9
Work for the Dole	\$277.2
Wage Subsidies for long term unemployed young people (\$6,500)	\$56.0
Additional funding for the Relocation to Take-Up a Job Programme	\$5.8

Should a job seeker be assessed as being "primarily homeless" the Employment Pathway Fund can be used to provide up to four weeks rent to secure a rental property or access to crisis accommodation.