

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

**Outcome: Higher Education Research and International**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000644**

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 31 May 2017, Proof Hansard page 113

***Transferring sub-bachelor load to postgraduate load***

**Question**

Senator O'NEILL: How many universities in the past four years have requested their sub bachelor load be transferred to postgraduates?

Mr English: I should take that on notice.

Senator O'NEILL: Have there been any to your knowledge?

Mr English: It will depend on the mix of students they anticipate and their community faces at any given time. The underlying point of the reforms to the sub bachelor system and the postgraduate system is that previous allocations had been the accretion of historical decisions. The logic of that distribution was not always in line with local needs, and so from time to time universities would seek an adjustment in the annual process of settling their estimates for the coming year. We would allow some adjustment as long as it was within a zero financial impact. Say, for last year when we did this process, as long as it was a zero financial impact we allowed some movement of sub bachelor places to postgraduate but I would need to pull the numbers.

Senator O'NEILL: That would be helpful.

**Answer**

The Department of Education and Trainings records show, from 2014–17, there were four universities which transferred places from sub-bachelor to postgraduate.