

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research and International

Department of Education Question No. ED0077_14

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question

HECS-HELP

For the HECS-HELP please provide: a. the 2012-13 updated budget outcome for this program b. Current forward estimates for 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 c. What the breakdown of these estimates is between administered and Departmental costs? d. How many FTE staff positions are allocated to the running of the HECS-HELP?

Answer

a. The Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) consists of the HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP, OS-HELP, SA-HELP and VET FEE-HELP schemes. HELP expenses are unable to be disaggregated into individual HELP schemes such as HECS-HELP.

The HELP expense for 2012-13, as reported in the DIICCSRTE 2012-13 annual report, was \$1 608.148 million (refer page 138).

b. Current forward estimates as at the Pre-Election Economic and Fiscal Outlook:

Higher Education Loan Program	2012-2013 \$m	2013-14 \$m	2014-15 \$m	2015-16 \$m	2016-17 \$m
Administered	1,608.1	1,289.2	1,456.1	1,593.7	1,744.3

c. The budgeted HELP expenses are administered expenses only.

d. There is no specific allocation of resources for the programme management of HECS-HELP.