

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Reform & Support

Department of Education Question No. ED0710_15

Senator Carr asked on 14 November 2014 , Hansard page 36

Question

Number of students currently enrolled and paying full fees

Senator KIM CARR: So of the 80,000, 35,000 are actually existing students? Mr Griew: That is my understanding, but we will confirm that on notice. Senator KIM CARR: Well, it gets to the heart of the problem. CHAIR: But will they still be studying in 2018? Senator KIM CARR: Of course they will be studying. Presumably— Mr Griew: Some of them will have finished, because they are in the pipeline. Ms Paul: We can probably take that on notice. ... Senator KIM CARR: Of the 80,000, you are saying to me that 35,000 would be students who are currently enrolled in a private provider or in an entity where they are paying fees? Mr Griew: We will have to take that on notice because there is some proportion of the students who are currently in the system who will have finished and be replaced by new students. Senator KIM CARR: But presumably by 2018 they will be replaced by other private students? Ms Paul: But then there would be the first cohort from 2016 under the new system, so I think we should probably take your precise question on notice. .. Senator KIM CARR: Can you provide it for me on the basis of subdegree and bachelor—how many of those would fit into each of those categories? Ms Paul: Okay, we will try that. We will see if we can do that. Senator KIM CARR: And have you are allowed for growth in year 12 enrolments? Ms Birmingham: Yes, that does include a small annual growth for year 12 enrolments. Senator KIM CARR: What is it? Ms Birmingham: I do not have the percentage figure here. Senator KIM CARR: Would you provide that for me, please? Ms Birmingham: Yes.

Answer

According to the Department's statistics, in 2013 there were 50,845 domestic full-fee paying undergraduate students at Australian higher education institutions. Of these, 40,384 were in bachelor degree courses and 10,461 were in diploma, advanced diploma and associate degree courses.

Additional sub-bachelor students

To estimate the number of additional sub-bachelor places that will be supported by the Commonwealth following implementation of the reforms, the Government assumed that the number of domestic full-fee paying sub-bachelor places in 2012 would grow by 3 per cent per year between 2012 and 2015. From 2016 onwards it was assumed that these places would grow at the same rate as overall university estimates for Commonwealth supported places i.e. between 2 and 3 per cent, plus an additional 7,800 places per year to account for growth in the system.

The estimated number of places was then multiplied by the 2012 ratio of domestic sub-bachelor students to places (1.48 to 1) to determine an estimate of the number of additional Commonwealth supported sub-bachelor *students* in 2016 onwards.

Additional bachelor students

To estimate the number of additional bachelor places that will be supported by the Commonwealth following implementation of the reforms, the Government assumed that the number of domestic full-fee paying bachelor places in 2012 would grow by 3 per cent per year.

The estimated number of places was then multiplied by the 2012 ratio of domestic full-fee paying bachelor students to places (1.33 to 1) to determine an estimate of the number of additional Commonwealth supported bachelor *students* in 2016 onwards.

The following tables set out the estimated number of additional sub-bachelor and bachelor places and students in 2016 to 2018.

Estimated additional Commonwealth supported places

	2016	2017	2018
Additional sub-bachelor <u>places</u> due to expansion	16,000	24,200	32,500
Additional bachelor <u>places</u> due to expansion	25,100	25,900	26,600
Total additional <u>places</u> to due to expansion	41,100	50,000	59,100

Estimated additional Commonwealth supported students

	2016	2017	2018
Additional sub-bachelor <u>students</u> due to expansion	23,600	35,800	48,100
Additional bachelor <u>students</u> due to expansion	33,500	34,50	35,500
Total additional <u>students</u> to due to expansion	57,100	70,200	83,600