Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000949

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Grandparent Child Care Benefit

Question

Under the new child care system, will all grandparents are currently eligible for the Grandparent Child Care Benefit continue to have the actual cost of care met? Will there be any activity test or means test applied to Grandparents who are primary carers? What will those tests be?

Answer

On 29 November 2015, the Australian Government announced that the Additional Child Care Subsidy would be extended to grandparents on income support who are the primary carers of their grandchildren.

This means that grandparents on income support providing primary carer responsibilities will be exempted from the activity test and will be eligible for up to 100 hours of subsidised care a fortnight, based on the actual fee charged up to 120 per cent of the hourly fee cap.