

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 20-24 October 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Topic:** Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme

**Senator:** Senator Cory Bernardi

**Question reference number:** 27

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 5 December 2014

**Number of pages:** 4

**Question:**

1. How is performance monitored under the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS)?
2. Has ITAS been subject to Review since commencement?
3. How is funding provided to universities to deliver ITAS and can you provide the committee with specific allocations for each university?
4. In the 2013-14 financial year how many students were eligible for ITAS across participating universities?
5. Is it known how many students are enrolled at Australian universities and the numbers that take up tutorial support? Can you tell me does this equate to equivalent completion rates of Indigenous students at university?
6. Does the department know how many Indigenous students completed university studies compared to the numbers enrolled at Australian universities?
7. Are there any opportunities and benefits to students and universities under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy?
8. Has the Government ceased funding universities to deliver the tutorial support for Indigenous students?

**Answer:**

1. Funded institutions are required to submit a performance report by 31 March of the year following the funding year.

The performance report includes information about the number of students who received ITAS tuition, the total number of hours of group and individual tuition by field of study, student outcomes (pass, fail, withdrew, deferred) in units for which tutorial support was provided and the number of tutors delivering tuition. Qualitative information about tutor

effectiveness; successful strategies with a positive impact on student learning; and course and unit completion rates is also provided.

2. The Review of ATAS (now ITAS) Bulk-Funding Arrangements to Higher Education Institutions and Boarding Schools, funded under the Indigenous Education Direct Assistance Programme was undertaken in 2003.

ITAS was included in the Review of Higher Education Access and Outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People which reported in 2012.

3. ITAS funding was distributed by formula. The formula used the most recent available equivalent full time student load (EFTSL) data published by the Department of Education and provided funding on the basis that half of the eligible Indigenous student enrolments undertaking higher education may require supplementary tuition with:

- 70 per cent receiving one-on-one tuition; and
- 30 per cent receiving tuition in groups of 4 students.

$(\text{Half EFTSL} \times 0.7 \times 34 \text{ weeks} \times 3 \text{ hours} \times \text{one-on-one tuition rate}) +$   
 $(\text{Half EFTSL} \times 0.3 \times 34 \text{ weeks} \times 3 \text{ hours} \times \text{group tuition rate}) / 4$

In addition to the programme funding entitlements calculated under this formula, an additional amount of 15 per cent was included with payments to assist in meeting administration costs.

The 2014 funding allocations by institution are at [Attachment A](#). The most recently published EFTSL data is 9,149 for the 2013 year, which also includes enrolments at a small number of non-university higher education institutions which are not eligible for ITAS funding.

In 2013 institutions reported total ITAS expenditure of \$11.1 million against total funding allocations of \$15.1 million. Details of 2013 ITAS expenditure by institution were provided in response to Senate Parliamentary Question No. 856.

4. Institutions undertake an assessment of student need against the criteria set out in the ITAS guidelines to determine eligibility. The guidelines are available at <http://www.industry.gov.au/highereducation/IndigenousHigherEducation/Documents/DIISRTEIETAGuidelines-January2013.pdf>.

Funded institutions have reported that 3,530 students received tutorial support through ITAS in 2013.

5. In 2013, a total of 13,723 Indigenous students were enrolled across all higher education institutions and 3,530 of these students accessed ITAS support.

In 2013, 1,859 Indigenous students completed their studies at higher education institutions. The Department does not have data which identifies how many students were enrolled in their final year of study in 2013.

In 2013, overall Indigenous students enrolled at higher education institutions passed 73.4 per cent of the units in which they enrolled, while Indigenous students assessed as requiring ITAS support passed 76.3 per cent of the units in which they enrolled.

6. In 2013, 1,859 Indigenous students completed their studies at higher education institutions out of a total of 13,723 Indigenous students who were enrolled. The Department does not have data which identifies how many students were enrolled their final year of study in 2013.

7. Universities can apply for funding through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) to continue tutorial support activities which are more flexible than the current ITAS programme and with a reduced administrative burden. They will also be able to apply for funding to support more holistic/tailored student support activities which will contribute to the achievement of improved outcomes for students, should they choose to do so.
8. No, funding is available through the IAS funding round.

## 2014 funding allocations by institution

State	Provider Name	2014 Total Entitlement
ACT	The Australian National University	\$203,211.72
ACT	University of Canberra	\$241,195.22
NSW	Charles Sturt University	\$1,046,445.41
NSW	Macquarie University	\$292,472.95
NSW	Southern Cross University	\$488,087.97
NSW	University of New England	\$617,231.87
NSW	University of New South Wales	\$522,273.12
NSW	University of Newcastle	\$1,126,210.76
NSW	University of Sydney	\$482,390.44
NSW	University of Technology Sydney	\$345,649.85
NSW	University of Western Sydney	\$744,476.59
NSW	University of Wollongong	\$425,415.19
NT	Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	\$24,689.27
NT	Charles Darwin University	\$638,122.79
QLD	Australian Catholic University Ltd	\$520,373.94
QLD	Bond University Limited	\$93,059.57
QLD	Central Queensland University	\$431,112.72
QLD	Griffith University	\$885,015.54
QLD	James Cook University	\$805,250.19
QLD	Queensland University of Technology	\$767,266.69
QLD	University of Queensland	\$452,003.64
QLD	University of Southern Queensland	\$465,297.87
QLD	University of Sunshine Coast	\$267,783.67
SA	Flinders University of South Australia	\$315,263.05
SA	University of Adelaide	\$279,178.72
SA	University of South Australia	\$491,886.32
TAS	University of Tasmania	\$520,373.94
VIC	Deakin University	\$782,460.09
VIC	La Trobe University	\$220,304.30
VIC	Monash University	\$239,296.05
VIC	Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University	\$182,320.80
VIC	Swinburne University of Technology	\$87,362.05
VIC	University of Ballarat	\$74,067.82
VIC	University of Melbourne	\$288,674.60
WA	Curtin University	\$560,256.62
WA	Edith Cowan University	\$311,464.70
WA	Murdoch University	\$239,296.05
WA	University of Notre Dame Australia	\$82,723.11
WA	University of Western Australia	\$347,549.02
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,907,514.22</b>