

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio  
Additional Estimates Hearing 2011-12  
15 February 2012

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

**TOPIC:** University Fees

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 15 February 2012, page 73)

**QUESTION No.:** AI-34

**Senator MASON:** You may need to take this on notice, because, again, it is a question of detail and perhaps the information is not in. What number and percentage of university students commencing in first semester 2012—that is about now or very shortly—chose to pay the new fee up-front, because the government has allowed them to pay it through the HECS-HELP line? Do you have that?

**Mr Warburton:** No.

**Senator MASON:** A bit early, is it? A little bit early?

**Mr Warburton:** Yes.

**Senator MASON:** Can you take that on notice. If you can get me the information, that is great but, as I said, I will ask at budget estimates, so be prepared for me to ask you that in more detail in budget estimates.

**ANSWER**

The Department will be able to provide information on the number of students that have deferred their student services and amenities fees around the end of September 2012. The Department will not be able to determine how many students have paid their fees upfront.

Universities are required to submit data on students who used SA-HELP in the first half of 2012 by 31 August 2012. Reports using this data are usually available around four weeks after the submission date (i.e. around the end of September 2012).