

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for higher education

#### **DEST Question No. E790\_04**

Senator Carr asked on 20 February 2004, EWRE Hansard page 6.

#### **Question:**

Can you indicate what additional measures you will be funding for students with disabilities?

#### **Answer:**

##### *Funding for students with disabilities*

Funding allocated to the Students with Disabilities programme, as announced in the Backing Australia's Future package, will double—from \$3 million to \$6 million per annum from 2005. The Higher Education Equity Programme (HEEP) Review Discussion Paper proposes that the existing Additional Support for Students with Disabilities programme and the Regional Disability Liaison Officer initiative, which is currently funded from HEEP, should both be funded from the Students with Disabilities programme. Any remaining funds could be distributed between universities on a performance basis. Outcomes of the HEEP review will be determined after consultation with the sector during March/April. After that time, the Minister will decide on the structure of the Students with Disabilities programme and guidelines will be developed and tabled in Parliament as disallowable instruments under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*.