

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.5 – Assistance for post school students including those with special needs.

DEST Question No. E703_05

Senator Aden Ridgeway provided in writing.

Question:

How do you inform the community and the parents of the ways in which their Abstudy payments are being spent on them?

Answer:

ABSTUDY

Payments are made direct to parents (or students in some cases) where students live at home. Where students go away for secondary schooling payments are made direct to the education provider on behalf of individual students. This funding is to contribute towards the costs of providing the level of education that the parents have sought for their children and, where relevant, board and lodging.

Centrelink ABSTUDY Units conduct outreach visits to communities and educational institutions to advise students and parents of the ways in which their ABSTUDY payments are made.