

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2004-2005 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
17 FEBRUARY 2005**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome 1: Efficient and effective labour market assistance**

**Output Group 1.1: Working Age Payments**

**Output 1.2.1: Information, referral and support services**

**Question Number: W228-05**

**Question:**

Senator Wong provided in writing:

Could we be provided with an explanation of the range of support services available to those on NSA and YA incapacitated and after they are placed on full activity test for NSA and YA?

**Answer:**

Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowances (incapacitated) job seekers may be assessed by professional assessors to determine their capacity to work. The professional assessors include work capacity and medical assessors and Psychologists. They provide an assessment report to Centrelink which helps determine the customer's activity test requirements, informs Centrelink of the barriers the customer faces and makes recommendations for assistance to overcome these barriers.

Centrelink provides the options listed in the assessment report to the customer. These include community options (e.g. referral to community health centres), State Government programmes and Commonwealth funded programme participation (e.g. Job Network assistance).

If the job seeker is exempted from the activity test then participation in any program is voluntary. The activity test for Youth Allowances(other) and New Start Allowance is flexible and individualized for each jobseeker. Those job seekers who do not receive an exemption from the activity test are required to participate in appropriate activities which they are able to undertake.