

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0804\_11**

**Senator Nash asked on 24/02/2011, Hansard page 14.**

**Question**

**YEARLY COMPARISON FOR GOVERNMENT FUNDING TO INCLUSION  
SUPPORT SUBSIDY**

Ms Shannon—I think that the current arrangements for the inclusion and professional support program were effectively announced in May 2008. There are various elements of the program that transition from the previous arrangements to the new arrangements. Senator NASH—So almost three years. I understand it is a contribution, but the differential is a bit under \$9; again, Senator Mason maths. In 2008 when it started, was the differential the same, or greater or smaller, in terms of the costs of actually providing the service? Mr Johnson—We will have to take that on notice. I think the proportion of the contribution would be reasonably constant, given that the payment—the subsidy itself—is indexed and increases annually. Senator NASH—If you would not mind doing comparative figures for me year on year; I appreciate it is contribution, but I just want to look at the figures in terms of whether it is keeping pace with the increased cost for the providers of the service.

**Answer**

In 2008, the ISS rate covered 74.40% of the indicative cost<sup>i</sup> of employing an additional worker. The rate was \$15.61 per hour. In 2010, the ISS rate covered 71.48% of the indicative cost, at a rate of \$16.19.

Please see the table on the following page for further detail.<sup>ii</sup>

Year	NSW – Health Employees' (State) Award, Child Care Worker *	Child Care Worker 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Child Care Worker 4 <sup>th</sup> Year	Child Care Worker 7 years +	Growth Percentage
<b>2008</b>	Full time/part time (38 hr week)	\$18.38	\$19.76	\$20.98	
	ISS Rate	\$15.61	\$15.61	\$15.61	
	<b>Difference</b>	\$2.77	\$4.15	\$5.37	
<b>2009</b>	Full time/part time (38 hr week)	\$19.10	\$20.53	\$21.80	3.9%
	ISS Rate	\$15.95	\$15.95	\$15.95	2.2%
	<b>Difference</b>	\$3.15	\$4.58	\$5.85	
<b>2010</b>	Full time/part time (38 hr week)	\$19.85	\$21.33	\$22.65	3.9%
	ISS Rate	\$16.19	\$16.19	\$16.19	1.5%
	<b>Difference</b>	\$3.66	\$5.14	\$6.46	

i

ii In 2009 and 2010, the wages of child care workers in New South Wales increased by 3.9%. At this time the ISS rate increased in line with the Consumer Price Index which was 2.2% in 2009 and 1.5% in 2010.

\*Reference:

[http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/jobs/conditions/awards/pdf/hsu\\_he\\_state.pdf](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/jobs/conditions/awards/pdf/hsu_he_state.pdf)