

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

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

Outcome 3 - Higher Education

DEEWR Question No.EW0913_11

Senator Nash asked on 24/02/2011, Hansard page 131.

Question

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN INNER REGIONAL ZONE ON FULL RATE OF
DEPENDENT YOUTH ALLOWANCE**

Senator NASH—It also says: ... many students who previously considered it necessary to gain eligibility as independents will no longer need to do so. So of those 100,000 how many would be in the inner regional zone and are they getting a full rate of allowance? Again, I am happy for you to take it on notice.

Answer

In the media release *Record numbers of students receiving Youth Allowance* of 11 February 2011, Senator the Hon Chris Evans, Minister of Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations said that over 100 000 students will benefit from the increase in the parental income test threshold and a 20 per cent family taper rate.

The figure of 100 000 is an estimate calculated when the reforms were announced and is not able to be disaggregated by region. It includes students able to access income support for the first time and those eligible for a higher rate of payment due to the reforms to the parental income test and taper.