

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

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

Outcome 3–Higher Education

DEEWR Question No.EW0961_11

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

ANNUAL FUNDING

1. What is the total annual funding for each of the forecast years provided in the written answer? (Ref. department's response to question on notice SIH-W3 - Attached)
2. Can you please provide the costs broken between Independent Youth Allowance and other student support mechanisms?

Answer

The independent Youth Allowance recipient numbers included in the response of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to question on notice SIH-W3 were based on calculations which estimated the cost of the Social Security Amendment (Income Support for Regional Students) Bill 2010 to be approximately \$270 million over the forward estimates to 2013-14. The Department followed the costing methodology used for the student income support reform package as agreed with the Department of Finance and Deregulation. The population size was based on 26 June 2009 Centrelink Administrative data.

In these calculations, the Department estimated the costs of applying the Outer Regional and Remote Measure to Inner Regional students, showing the components for independent Youth Allowance and Scholarships, to be:

Departmental Estimated Cost for Inner Regional Students under the Social Security Amendment (Income Support for Regional Students) Bill 2010 *	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15^	Total
Youth Allowance (independent) component	\$46.0m	\$88.2m	\$96.4m	\$99.1m	\$329.7m
Scholarships component	\$8.1m	\$13.1m	\$13.4m	\$13.7m	\$48.3m
Total	\$54.1m	\$101.3m	\$109.8m	\$112.8m	\$378.0m

* - Refer to Question on Notice SIH-W3 from the Inquiry into the Social Security Amendment (Income Support for Regional Students) Bill 2010 for assumptions regarding the student population numbers.

^ - For 2014-15, the 2013-14 cost has been indexed by 2.7 per cent.