

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.2 Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E002_04

Senator Crossin tabled on 4 June 2003.

Question:

- a) How many of those that applied started school this year on day 1?
- b) What were the reasons for failures to start on day 1 of those that applied?

Answer:

Indigenous students commencing school on day one of the school year who applied for ABSTUDY.

- a) Centrelink has only been able to respond in relation to Cape York, and has provided the following response.

Centrelink is not able to provide the data on how many students that applied for ABSTUDY started school this year on day one as this information is not collected. Centrelink can advise that it approved 142 customers from Cape York communities for ABSTUDY travel entitlements between 20 January 2003 and 7 February 2003. In the Cape York area most schools started on 28 January 2003, however, some boarding schools commenced the following week (ie 3-7 February 2003).

- b) Centrelink has provided the following response.

Centrelink is not able to provide any data on the reasons that students that applied for ABSTUDY failed to start school this year on day one as this information is not collected.