

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education

DEST Question No. E054_04

Senator Crossin asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

Can you confirm that the 30% loading provided for the Northern Territory University replaces an existing 20% loading? Please provide data on the difference in dollar terms between the existing loading and the proposed loading.

Answer:

Regional loading for the Northern Territory University (NTU)

Under the old funding model, there was no regional loading. The NTU's over-funding outside the band normally tolerated, was allowed because of special factors - its size, location etc. Under the new Commonwealth Grants Scheme, there is provision for a regional loading for universities which meet certain criteria. The special factors associated with NTU are again recognised by it being allocated to the top regional loading band.

Under the new arrangements NTU will receive an estimated \$4.4 million in regional loading. The amount will be finalised once a final list of eligible campuses has been established after consultation with the sector.