

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.5 – Assistance for post school students including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E089_04

Senator Carr asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

What would happen to an existing postgraduate student, not currently or in 2004 availing themselves of PELS, who decides to take out a loan in 2005, to pay fees in that year?

- a) Would that student still have access to loans on the more favourable PELS conditions?
- b) Or would that person have to take out a FEE-HELP loan?

Answer:

Impact on continuing postgraduate students

- a) b) No. Current Postgraduate Education Loan Scheme (PELS) students, or those PELS students commencing in 2004, will have access to the current PELS arrangements until the end of 2008 or until they:
- complete their current course;
 - discontinue their enrolment without formally deferring;
 - complete another award at the same level as their current course; or
 - choose to study under the new system.