

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

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

DEST Question No. E110_05

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

Question:

What was the basis for the decision to extend the exemption from social security income tests to include partial fee-waiver and fee-pay scholarships?

Answer:

Basis for exempting fee-waiver and fee-pay scholarships

The basis for exempting fee-waiver and fee-pay scholarships from social security income tests is that the benefit of these scholarships is not discretionary cash for the use of a student. A student cannot use the value of a fee waiver, or the value of a fee paid on their behalf, to support themselves.