

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1 and 2
Output Group: 1.2 – Assistance for individuals including those with special needs
 2.5 – Assistance for post school students including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E051_06

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Can the department please disaggregate into their respective different student assistance measures the funding referred to under the *Student Assistance Act* and the *Social Security Act* on p. 128 of the PBS? Please provide for the out years as well as current and coming years.

Answer:

Funding for income support for students disaggregated into schemes

The following table provides a breakdown of the funding under the *Student Assistance Act 1973* and the *Social Security Act 1991*, separated into the constituent schemes for 2004-05 to 2008-09.

Table of estimated expenses as at Budget 2005-06

	Revised Budget 2004-05	Next Budget 2005-06	FE1 2006-07	FE2 2007-08	FE3 2008-09
	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s
Output 1.2					
<i>ABSTUDY - Secondary Assistance for Isolated Children</i>	101,451	109,122	115,472	116,720	124,156
<i>Student Assistance Act 1973</i>	149,111	165,351	173,279	176,113	185,135

Output 2.5

<i>ABSTUDY - Tertiary ABSTUDY Student Financial Supplement Scheme loans</i>	87,978	89,282	90,415	91,419	93,364
<i>Student Assistance Act 1973</i>	100,211	96,321	96,275	97,693	99,744

<i>Student Financial Supplement Scheme loans - Austudy</i>	15,903	1,665	-8,147	-10,029	-9,436
<i>Youth Allowance</i>	1,104,592	8	5	5	2,031,589
<i>Austudy payment</i>	144,309	232,065	250,125	269,314	287,790
<i>Fares Allowance</i>	929	1,319	1,384	1,404	1,404
Social Security Act 1991	1,265,733	7	7	4	2,311,347

The negative expenses in the estimates for financial years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 for the Student Financial Supplement Scheme (SFSS) loans for Austudy relate to a decline in

the expected provision for doubtful debts. This will be reviewed after an actuarial assessment of the doubtful debt for the scheme is undertaken in 2005-06.