

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
30 ,31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group 3.1: Working age policy

Outputs 3.1.1: Working Age Policy and Legislation

Question Number: W019-06 (Amended)

Question:

Senator Chris Evans asked at *Hansard* 51:

Please provide the chart that lays out the key conditions for the post July 2006 changes between current recipients of DSP and enhanced Newstart?

Answer:

The following table outlines the basic income support entitlements for people with disabilities from 1 July 2006.

	Newstart Allowance for people with disabilities with partial work capacity	Disability Support Pension
Work capacity eligibility criterion	Assessed as able to work 15-29 hours per week at award wages in the open labour market without ongoing support, or could be assisted to reach that capacity within two years	Assessed as <u>not</u> able to work at least 15 hours per week at award wages in the open labour market without ongoing support, and could not reach that capacity with up to two years of assistance
Income test	\$62 per fortnight income free area, 50% taper for income between \$62 and \$250 per fortnight, 60% taper for income over \$250 per fortnight	For single person: \$124 per fortnight income free area, 40% taper for income over \$124 per fortnight
Pensioner Concession	Yes	Yes

	Newstart Allowance for people with disabilities with partial work capacity	Disability Support Pension
Card		
Pharmaceutical Allowance	Yes	Yes
Telephone Allowance	Yes	Yes
Participation requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working part time; and/or • looking for part time work; and/or • participating in a recommended programme of vocational assistance 	No
Employment Entry Payment	\$312, payable no more than once a year	\$312, payable no more than once a year
Pensioner Education Supplement	No	Yes
*Mobility Allowance	\$100 per fortnight	\$100 per fortnight for people who are working 15 hours or more per week in the open labour market, or looking for such work with assistance from an employment service provider

*Eligibility for Mobility Allowance: Mobility Allowance may be paid to Australian residents who are permanently, or for an extended period, unable to use public transport without substantial assistance due to disability. It is not subject to income or assets tests.