

**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: W134-06**

**Question:**

Senator Nettle provided in writing:

Will sole parents, partners of low-income earners who are full-time carers and people with a disability who are no longer eligible for parenting payment and the disability support pension respectively be eligible for the Pharmaceutical Benefit Allowance?

**Answer:**

Single parents on income support who have a child aged under 16 years in their care, and people on income support with a disability that limits their work capacity, will have access to Pharmaceutical Allowance. This is consistent with existing Parenting Payment Single arrangements, and for the Disability Support Pension. Partnered parents on Parenting Payment currently have access to Pharmaceutical Allowance if they are long term income support recipients and are aged 60 or more. As these requirements are the same for Newstart Allowance there will be no change for partnered people.