

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2007-2008 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 2

DEST Question No. E086_08

Senator Carr asked on 31 May 2007, EWRE Hansard page 39.

Question:

Senator CARR—The maximum youth allowance for masters by course work in Austudy is currently \$456 per fortnight?

Mr Kimber—It is \$456, if my memory serves me correctly, but I will have to check. I think it applies to Austudy recipients who were long-term unemployed. The maximum rate of youth allowance is \$348.10 a fortnight, plus rent assistance.

Answer:

Austudy Allowance

Students undertaking masters by course work are not currently eligible for Youth Allowance or Austudy. They will be eligible from 1 January 2008 if they are studying approved courses and meet other eligibility requirements for Youth Allowance and Austudy.

The current maximum rate of Austudy is \$456.00 per fortnight for a single person with children, and \$348.10 per fortnight for a single person. The special rate of Austudy for a long-term unemployed single person who commences full-time study is \$422.80 per fortnight.

The current maximum rate for Youth Allowance is \$456.00 per fortnight for a single person with children, \$348.10 per fortnight for a single person aged 18 and over who lives away from home, and \$229.10 per fortnight for a single person aged 18 and over who lives at home. The special rate of Youth Allowance for a long-term unemployed single person who lives away from home and commences full-time study is \$422.80 per fortnight.

Youth Allowance recipients may also be eligible for Rent Assistance. The current maximum rate of Rent Assistance is \$104.00 per fortnight. Austudy recipients may be eligible for Rent Assistance from 1 January 2008.