

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome

DEST Question No. E160_08

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

Question:

1. Can the Department provide figures on the number of extensions to Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA's and APAI's) approved by higher education providers each year over the past 10 years, including the duration for which those extensions were approved, sorted by provider?
2. Has the Government modelled how much it would cost to extend the duration of APA's and APAI's to four years, in line with the duration of PhD candidature?

Answer:

Postgraduate Study

1. No. The Department does not collect this data.
2. The Department has done some preliminary modelling on the cost of extending the APAs to a four year duration.

Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA)

DEST estimates the upper limit of the additional cost of extending APAs to four years would be approximately \$30 million dollars per annum indexed.

Australian Postgraduate Awards (Industry) (APAI's) and Australian Postgraduate Awards (Industry) - Information Technology (APAI-ITs)

The Australian Research Council estimates that the approximate cost of extending APAI's and APA-ITs to four years would be up to \$10.7 million per annum indexed.