

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

**Outcome 4**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0087\_10**

Senator Hanson-Young provided in writing.

**Question**

*Number of young people affected by 'learn or earn' policy.*

How many young people under age 21 will be affected by the changes to Youth Allowance under the 'learn or earn' policy

**Answer**

From 1 July 2009, new claimants for Youth Allowance (Other) will be assessed under the new 'learn or earn' participation requirements. Young people without Year 12 or an equivalent qualification will be required to study full time, or participate in part time study or training in combination with other approved activities, usually for at least 25 hours per week.

The new requirements will be progressively implemented for existing recipients without Year 12 or an equivalent qualification between 1 January 2010 and 30 June 2010.

There is no change to participation requirements for young people who have completed Year 12 or an equivalent qualification.

At April 2009, approximately 66 percent of 78,650 Youth Allowance (Other) recipients aged under 21 had not completed Year 12 or an equivalent Certificate II qualification. It is expected that a similar proportion of young people claiming Youth Allowance (Other) from 1 July 2009 will be affected by this measure.