

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

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

Outcome **2**

DEEWR Question No. EW0097_10

Senator Hanson-Young provided in writing.

Question

Newly arrived refugees

What arrangements will be in place to cater for newly arrived refugees without English who have just arrived from refugee camps, have had a history of disrupted learning if they have had any opportunities for formal education, have significant responsibilities relating to their large families who do not come from a culture that understands the importance of education or out of home employment and where study in cramped housing conditions is very difficult as part of Earn or Learn?

Answer

The National Youth Participation Requirement ("Earn or Learn") will be implemented by state and territory governments, who will be responsible for legislation, compliance and exemptions.

The Australian Government is supporting the National Youth Participation Requirement by strengthening the requirements for receipt of Youth Allowance (other) and Family Tax Benefit (Part A), making education and training a precondition for obtaining this income support. Depending on the individual's circumstances, exemptions from this requirement may be applied to newly arrived refugees. Further, participation in some Australian Government Programs, such as Youth Connections, the Adult Migrant English Program and Stream Four employment services will satisfy the conditions for Youth Allowance (other).