

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0041\_11**

**Senator Back provided in writing.**

**Question**

**VET FEE-HELP**

What is the cost of offering VET FEE-HELP to providers training those in the aviation sector in this year's estimates and numbers? What is the total number of students? And estimated costs in the forward estimates?

**Answer**

The Australian Government pays the tuition fees of students accessing VET FEE-HELP to a VET Provider on behalf of a student. There are currently two VET Providers that offer diploma-level and above aviation-related courses.

VET FEE-HELP is a student demand-driven loan scheme; loan estimates are based on total student numbers only. The expenses reported in the forward estimates relate to the anticipated doubtful debt and fair value provisions of VET FEE-HELP loans.

In 2010, the total number of students accessing VET FEE-HELP for aviation-related courses is 48 and they have accessed \$570,610.00 of VET FEE-HELP assistance. This amount does not represent the total amount of tuition charged as students can defer all or part of their tuition fees.