

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

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

**Outcome 2 - Schools**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0075\_11**

**Senator Mason provided in writing.**

**Question**

**INDIGENOUS FUNDING GUARANTEE**

"In regards to the IFG, how is it calculated, and in particular:

- Is it a per capita supplementation or a defined sum?
- Is it calculated against a static time benchmark, such as the 2008 school year, or does it change from year to year?
- Does it take account of yearly variations in enrolments?
- What is the duration of this initiative?"

**Answer**

*Is it a per capita supplementation or a defined sum?*

Non-systemic non-government schools have the option of having their Indigenous Funding Guarantee (IFG) calculated on a per capita basis or their total recurrent funding entitlements.

Non-government school systems receive IFG based on their total recurrent funding entitlements as there is no financial benefit for them to opt for the per capita basis.

*Is it calculated against a static time benchmark, such as the 2008 school year, or does it change from year to year?*

The IFG is designed to ensure that a non-government school system or independent school will receive total recurrent funding that is at least comparable to the total recurrent funding received in 2008.

*Does it take account of yearly variations in enrolments?*

Yes. Both options take enrolment fluctuations into account. The per capita option adjusts the IFG amount for both increases and decreases. If a non-government school system or independent school has their IFG calculated on a total recurrent funding basis and they experience a decline in enrolments, their 2008 comparative base is reduced by a pro-rated amount equivalent to the enrolment decline.

*What is the duration of the initiative?*

The IFG will operate until the end of the 2009-2012 funding period.