

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 2 – Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0405_13

Senator Mason asked on 31 May 2012 , Hansard page 41

Question

UNESCO Informatics Olympiads

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No EW0820_12

Senator MASON: That is clear, thank you. That is excellent. Is the government providing money for the hosting of the UNESCO informatics olympiads next year in Brisbane? Ms Davy: We would probably need to take that on notice. Our response to you at the time was that it was being hosted by the University of Queensland in an arrangement between the University of Queensland and the Australian Mathematics Trust. We would need to take on notice whether either of those bodies is receiving Australian government funding to support that. Senator MASON: Right. I think the minister is correct in his statement that in the past Australian governments have given money to help Australia host these olympiads, of whatever colour they are. Is that right? Ms Davy: Yes. We would need to check. As the senator mentioned, it is probably something in another portfolio area, where that funding is coming from— Senator Kim Carr: My recollection was that it is to do with the ANU as well. This is all from memory. Please, if we are incorrect— Senator MASON: Ms Davy is taking it on notice anyway. Ms Paul: It is in the science portfolio, so we will take it on notice and find out.

Answer

Australian Government funding of \$10.15 million has been provided since 1995 to support Australian students' participation in the Mathematics, Informatics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology Olympiads until 2012–13. An additional \$2.4 million will be provided to support continued participation in these Olympiads from 2013–14 to 2015–16, as part of the Science and Maths Participation package announced in the 2012 budget.

The Government has not provided specific funding to support the hosting of the Informatics Olympiads in Brisbane in 2013.