

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.5 – Assistance for post school students including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E465_04

Senator Crossin asked on 6 November 2003

Question:

Refers to DEST Question No: E081_04

In answer to question E081_04 (Sen Carr 5 June) it was stated that people returning to study some years after a first degree will not be disadvantaged, that they would be provided with Supplementary Learning Entitlement in support of lifelong learning.

- (a) What is proposed for this scheme?
- (b) When will it be finalised and come into operation?

Answer:

Supplementary learning entitlement

- (a) The *Higher Education Support Bill 2003* is being amended to include provisions for “accrued Student Learning Entitlement (SLE)” to support lifelong learning. The details of this initiative are yet to be finalised.
- (b) It is expected that the details on the operation of accrued SLE will be finalised as part of the SLE Guidelines. These Guidelines will be available for sector comment in December 2003 and will come into operation on 1 January 2005.