

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 2

**Output Group:** 2.4 – Funding for Higher Education

#### DEST Question No. E671\_06

Senator Wong provided in writing.

#### Question:

- 1) Please provide (in Excel spreadsheet format) data on fee-paying Australian students (numbers and load) between 1996 and the latest year for which data is available, in the following areas:
  - a) by State/territory
  - b) by Higher Education Institution
  - c) each HEI's proportion of total revenue from this source
  - d) by mode of study
  - e) by undergraduate/postgraduate
  - f) level of fee per course
  - g) by course
- 2) Please also provide this information for the Budget out-years.

#### Answer:

##### *Fee-paying Australian Students*

Higher education providers may offer up to 35 percent of domestic places in an undergraduate course of study to fee-paying students (25% percent in medical courses). This enables institutions to better respond to student demand in particular areas, and to provide additional educational opportunities and choices for students, which would otherwise not be available. Domestic fee-paying undergraduate places are additional to Commonwealth supported places.

There is no limit on the number of fee-paying places in postgraduate courses, provided the allocated Commonwealth supported places have been filled.

- 1)
  - a) See Attachment 1.
  - b) See Attachment 1.
  - c) See Attachment 2.
  - d) See Attachment 3.
  - e) See Attachment 4.
  - f) See Attachment 5.
  - g) The Department does not disaggregate data on fee-paying students and fee-paying equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL) at the course level.

In the latest year for which data is available, 2004, there were a total 70,438 domestic fee-paying students (undergraduate and postgraduate) at the 48 public and private institutions as listed in Attachment 1. The following table shows these as a proportion of total students (student numbers and load).

|                 | Fee-paying undergraduates (u/g) |                        | Total u/g | Proportion fee-paying u/g (%) | Fee-paying postgraduate (p/g) |                        | Total p/g | Proportion fee-paying p/g (%) |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
|                 | Standard semester               | Non-standard semester* |           |                               | Standard semester             | Non-standard semester* |           |                               |
| Student numbers | 10,493                          | 2,720                  | 525,505   | 2.51                          | 45,840                        | 11,385                 | 173,159   | 33.05                         |
| Load (EFTSL)    | 7,565                           | 2,588                  | 410,021   | 2.48                          | 15,011                        | 3,994                  | 80,308    | 23.67                         |

\*-includes remedial/fast tracking units in non-standard semesters such as Summer/Winter semesters.

- 2) The Department does not estimate total fee-paying student numbers or total fee-paying EFTSL for Budget out-years.