

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 - Funding for Higher Education

DEST Question No. E665_07

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

Skills for the Future

- What will be the allocation process for these extra 500 engineering places?
- Who will be eligible for these places?
- What is average funding per place?
- What impact is this initiative expected to have on the overall level of HELP debt?

Answer:

Skills for the Future – Engineering places

- Proposals will be sought from higher education providers. The details of the process have not been decided at this stage.
- Higher education providers listed as Table A providers under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*.
- The engineering places were costed at an estimated average cost of \$13,668 per place (equivalent full-time student load) in 2008 prices. The actual funding per place will not be known until the allocations are determined.
- The estimated cumulative impact on total accumulated HELP debt in each year is provided in the table below.

	2007-08 (\$m)	2008-09 (\$m)	2009-10 (\$m)	2010-11 (\$m)
Estimated increase in total accumulated HELP debt due to 500 additional engineering places	1.377	5.242	11.125	18.665