

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

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

**Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0408\_11**

**Senator Abetz provided in writing.**

**Question**

**MODERATE DISABILITY**

"From 1st July 2010 an additional 70% loading was made available for the service/outcome fees for job seekers with a moderate disability. What prompted the decision to add 70% loading to the service fees for people with a moderate intellectual disability and what research supports this decision? How is the Department defining moderate disability?"

**Answer**

The loading is in recognition that people with moderate intellectual disability experience significant difficulties in learning and maintaining the range of skills that are needed to get and keep work, as well as other core activities of daily living, including communication, self-care and social and personal skills. This requires the disability service provider to offer more intensive support to place and train people with moderate intellectual disability.

The measure will be trialled for 2 years and the evidence gathered will be used to determine whether this kind of targeted assistance can help job seekers with higher support needs to achieve sustainable jobs at higher than minimum hours of work.

For the purposes of the trial, a person with moderate intellectual disability is defined as having an assessed Intelligence Quotient (IQ) of 60 or less, or has been classified by a registered psychologist, using a recognised assessment tool, as having moderate intellectual disability.