

**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.EW0528_11

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

SEAM

How many schools are now taking part in the program? Has school attendance improved in the schools taking part in the program? If so, by how much?

Answer

SEAM trials have been underway in six Northern Territory communities – 14 schools – since January 2009. The trials have also been underway in three Queensland regions – 30 schools – since September 2009.

As noted in the department's Question on Notice response to Senator Crossin on 3 June 2010, a final evaluation of SEAM will be undertaken by the department once the trial concludes. The department is monitoring trends and will be examining the long-term impact of the trial on school attendance through the evaluation. Early indications are that improvements in attendance are evident but the extent of improvement and to which improvements are sustained is being monitored.