

**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.EW0662_11

Senator Nash asked on 21/10/2010, Hansard page 79.

Question

EARLY SCHOOL LEAVERS – CANCELLATION OF PAYMENTS

Senator NASH—In terms of the requirement now to 'earn or learn', do you know how many youth allowance or FTB payments have been cancelled or reduced as a result of the changes? Ms Paul—We might not know about FTB. Mr Griew—We have some figures here. Senator NASH—I am happy for you to take it on notice if you would prefer to give the committee the right figures. Mr Griew—We have the figures we have here and we can take more on notice. The people who are experts and responsible for administering this were here last night, under program 4. They make come back, otherwise we will give you what we can and take the rest on notice.

Answer

From 1 July 2009 to 30 September 2010, 285 cancellations of Youth Allowance (other) payments were recorded in Centrelink's system due to the young person not meeting Early School Leaver "learn or earn" participation requirements.

Family Tax Benefit payments are the responsibility of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.