

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 3 - Tertiary, Skills, International and Indigenous Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0555_12

Senator Cash provided in writing.

Question

Providing \$80 million Over Four Years to Support up to 31,000 Training Places

In the Women's Budget statement for 2011-2012, it is stated that the Australian Government is providing \$80 million over four years to support up to 31,000 training, at the Certificate II level or above, for single and teenage parents on income support. Funding will be provided to the states and territories under a new National Partnership Agreement to commence in January 2012. a) What is the status of the National Partnership Agreement? b) c) How many training places are expected to be supported in the first 6 months of 2012? d) e) Please outline how the \$80 million will be invested?

Answer

a) *What is the status of the National Partnership Agreement?*

The NP is currently being negotiated with the States.

b) *Will it commence in January 2012?*

It is intended that it commence in January 2012.

c) *How many training places are expected to be supported in the first 6 months of 2012?*

The Commonwealth contribution to the NP in 2011-12 can support up to 1200 training places nationally.

d) *What monitoring arrangements are in place by the Office of Women to track how many women are being supported by this initiative?*

The majority of Parenting Payment Single recipients who are eligible for training under this NP are women. Monitoring of uptake of places is the responsibility of DEEWR. DEEWR will report on the uptake of training.

e) *Please outline how the \$80 million will be invested?*

The funding of \$80 million is for training places and the distribution of funds to the States is on the basis of their share of eligible parents under the NP.