

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

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

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0629_12

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No [EW0196_12](#)

Question

Support for Students with Disability

Following up on Question on Notice reply from budget estimates regarding More Support for Students with Disabilities initiative -

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/estimates/bud_1112/answers/EW0196_12.pdf

There is \$200 million over three years in the budget to help teachers and schools support students with a disability and improve their learning outcome. Senator Nash asked how much of this funding will go to help students with disabilities in rural, remote and regional schools. DEEWR responded it was not possible to identify funding for rural, remote and regional schools until the National Partnership is finalised and implementation plans have been agreed on.

What is the timeline for it to be finalised?

DEEWR failed to answer if all of the funding under the initiative will go direct to schools to help these students and how it would ensure it's not consumed by bureaucracy – can DEEWR please provide a response.

Answer

Activities under the More Support for Students with Disabilities initiative are due to commence from the 2012 school year.

Government and non-government education authorities in each state and territory will be funded to implement activities to build the capacity of their schools and teachers to better support students with disabilities. Education authorities have assessed the needs of teachers and schools and consulted with peak parent and disability organisations to determine the activities. This approach ensures funding is allocated where most needed and used in a sustainable way.

Implementation plans detailing each education authority's activities will be agreed with the Minister Assisting for School Education and the details will be publicly available through the DEEWR website.