

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013

Question: E13-017

OUTCOME: 6 - Rural Health

Topic: Rural Health Funding

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig

Question:

- a) How will nursing and allied health scholarships be targeted to address workforce shortages in rural and remote areas?
- b) Will the scholarships be available to overseas-born medical students who train in Australia?
- c) Is assistance available to support students while they are undertaking medical internships?

Answer:

- a) Currently scholarships are targeted to in demand health professions and locations under the Australian Standard Geographical – Remoteness Areas system.
- b) Nursing and allied health scholarships will not be available for students and/or health professionals training in medicine. Other programmes are available to support medical education.
- c) The Commonwealth Medical Internship initiative will fund intern salaries and some training and administrative costs for hospitals. Apart from funding for the internship position, no financial assistance is provided directly to interns by the Commonwealth.