

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No.EW0848_11

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

HOW DOES THE COMMONWEALTH ALLOCATE MONEY TO THE STATES AND TERRITORIES

With regards to the \$150.1 million budgeted as general payments to the states and territories in the 2009-10 budget, how does the Commonwealth allocate money to the States and Territories – is it allocated in relation to population or student numbers, etc? Are the States able to re-negotiate the amount of funding provided by the Commonwealth? Would there be any specific penalties for a State who cancels a program funded through the Partnership?

Answer

\$150.1 million is the project funding allocation to states and territories over the 2009-10 to 2013-14 financial year period for the Maximising Engagement, Attainment and Successful Transitions element of the National Partnership on Youth Attainment and Transitions.

The allocation to each state and territory was determined by each state and territory's share of the ABS projected 2009 12-18 year old cohort, with a 1.45 per cent weighting applied for the remote student population.

States and territories agreed to the quantum of this funding and use of the funding methodology during negotiations in the lead up to agreement to the National Partnership on Youth Attainment and Transitions on 2 July 2009. There is no scope within the National Partnership to re-negotiate the funding levels.

States and territories have outlined what the Maximising Engagement, Attainment and Successful Transitions funds will be spent on in their individual National Partnership Implementation Plans agreed by the Commonwealth in early 2010. Any changes by states and territories to these agreed funding priorities requires approval by the Commonwealth.