

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
30 ,31 MAY and 3 JUNE 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group 3.1: Working Age Policy

Output 3.1.1: Working Age Policy and Legislation

Question Number: W092-06

Question:

Senator Allison provided in writing:

Will those Australians with a disability required to undertake education as a mutual obligation activity retain access to the PES?

Answer:

Those Australians with a disability undertaking education as a Mutual Obligation activity will not have access to the PES.

A person granted Disability Support Pension between 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006 may be reviewed after 1 July 2006 and reassessed against the new DSP eligibility criteria, particularly the 15 hours work capacity criterion. If the person's work capacity is assessed at 15 hours or more, he/she will be transferred to Newstart or Youth Allowance (if the eligibility criteria are met). If the person was receiving PES at the time of the DSP review, he/she will retain access to PES for the duration of the qualifying course, providing he/she continues to receive Newstart or Youth Allowance.