

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0076_14

Senator Wright provided in writing.

Questions

NAPLAN costs

1. What is the total cost of developing, administering and reporting on the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing, to the Commonwealth government? 2. In relation to NAPLAN, what costs are borne by state and territory governments? 3. What is the cost of operating the *My School* website, in each year from 2010-11 to the current financial year; and estimated over the forward estimates

Answers

NAPLAN costs

1. *What is the total cost of developing, administering and reporting on the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing, to the Commonwealth government?*

The Australian Government has contributed \$12.175 million over the 2011-12 financial year to the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) budget. ACARA manages the national aspects of NAPLAN testing, including test development, analysis and reporting of results at the national level, on behalf of the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood.

2. *In relation to NAPLAN, what costs are borne by state and territory governments?*

ACARA is funded 50 per cent by the Australian Government and 50 per cent by the states and territories of Australia, with each state and territory government contributing an amount based on the relative student numbers with its jurisdiction.

Administration and delivery of NAPLAN tests—including printing, distribution and marking of test papers, and the printing and distribution of student reports—is the responsibility of the relevant test administration authority in each state and territory (see www.nap.edu.au/contacts/contact-test-administration-authorities.html).

My School website

3. *What is the cost of operating the My School website, in each year from 2010-11 to the current financial year; and estimated over the forward estimates?*

The figures below are made up of the costs for main site and disaster recovery site hosting, financial assurance, web development, maintenance and testing provided by external suppliers.

Period	Cost of operating My School website – external suppliers
FY 2010–11	\$1,577,907
FY 2011–12*	\$747,000
FY 2012–13	\$705,000
FY 2013–14	\$726,000

* The significant reduction in cost between 2010–11 and 2011–12 in part reflects savings achieved through bringing website development and maintenance in-house in 2011.