

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

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

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0229_14

Senator Mason asked on 5 June 2013, Hansard page 78

Question

Students with a disability loading

Senator MASON: I will go back to the issue about disabilities. What is the loading for a student with a disability estimated to be worth in dollar terms—both for a primary and for a secondary student? Mr Cook: It would be 186 per cent, of about \$9,200 for primary and \$12,100 for secondary. Ms Paul: So each of these loadings—they all the same. You apply it as a percentage of the SRS. Senator MASON: How many students with a disability are estimated to qualify for a loading from 2014? Mr Cook: I would have to take that on notice. Senator JACINTA COLLINS: That would depend on the existing arrangements in that state or territory. Ms Paul: We should be able to get that for you. Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Remember what I said a moment ago—the interim loading is designed to capture existing resourcing from the state and territory level, topped up with some additional spending from the Commonwealth to move into the model into the future. In 2014, you are looking at arrangements which will roughly reflect what is currently occurring in that state or territory. Mr Cook: This will be based on data provided to us by schools and systems. We have it available to us. I just do not know off the top of my head what it is. We can take it on notice. We should be able to provide the information quite easily. Senator MASON: When are the answers to questions on notice due? CHAIR: They are due on 19 July. Senator MASON: Over the forward estimates in the 2013-14 budget, how much funding has been set aside for the student with a disability loading? Mr Cook: It would be part of the total funding. It is calculated through the budget. Senator MASON: Can it be disaggregated? Mr Cook: I will have to take that on notice as well. We can look into that. Senator JACINTA COLLINS: I think that is a subset of the earlier question you asked about loadings. Ms Paul: Yes, I think that is true. Mr Cook: It may be challenging. We will have to take it on notice. As you would imagine, there are a whole range of interactions with a number of loadings for a student with disability. But we will certainly look into it and do our best.

Answer

How many students with disability are estimated to qualify for a loading from 2014?

The interim loading for students with disability for 2014 is based on the reported number of students with disability as appears in the Report on Government Services (ROGS). For Catholic and independent schools the reported number of students with disability is collected via the annual non-government school census and is based on the number of students who satisfied the eligibility criteria for enrolment in special

education programs or services in each state and territory. For government schools the reported number of students with disability is collected via the annual government school census and is based on the number of students who satisfied the eligibility criteria for enrolment in special education programs or services in each state and territory. The Report for Government Services 2013 is based on 2011 data which indicates 5.1 per cent of all school student enrolments (177 749 students) are students with disability. This compares with 4.9 per cent of school enrolments the previous year (172 311 students).

Over the forward estimates in the 2013-2014 budget how much funding has been set aside for the student with disability loading? Can it be disaggregated?

The following response is in accordance with the response provided to EW0227_14. It is not possible to provide a final estimate of loadings split on a state, sector and year-by-year basis, as they are subject to final negotiations with states and territories. Further, the value of each loading will be updated as the reform is implemented to reflect changing and updated school and student characteristics.

It is possible, however, to provide an estimated breakdown of loadings, in percentage terms, under the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) model, based on data from My School 2011.

Table: Student with Disability (SwD) and other loadings as proportion of Total Funding, by Sector, based on data from My School 2011.

Government	Government	Catholic	Independent	Total
Base	72.4%	77.6%	81.6%	74.2%
Low Socio Economic Status	11.8%	10.0%	7.4%	11.1%
Indigenous	2.1%	0.9%	1.2%	1.8%
Students with Disability	8.7%	7.1%	5.8%	8.2%
English Language Proficiency	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
Location	3.0%	2.6%	1.7%	2.8%
Size	1.8%	1.6%	2.1%	1.8%