



Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025–26
Friday, 10 October 2025
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 6.59pm.

The committee called the Education portfolio, discussing the following topics:

Department of Education

Corporate and Enabling Services

- Spending on consultants and contactors;
- Capability needs review; and
- Procurement decision making process for CN 4152496 and CN 4153 504.

Outcome 1: Schools

- Better and Fairer Schools Agreement;
- Schooling Resource Standard;
- NAPLAN results for boys compared to girls;
- Closing the Gap targets;
- Bilateral agreements with the states and territories;
- Male teachers in the workforce;
- Establishment of the Teaching and Learning Commission;
- Australian Education Research Organisation reporting structures and KPGM review; and
- Nationally Consistent Collection of Data.

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority

- NAPLAN results;
- Differences in education outcomes based on gender; and
- Upcoming National Curriculum Review.

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA)

- ACECQA's role in the recent alleged child sexual abuse events in Victorian childcare centres;
- Mandatory child safety training;
- Under the roof ratio;
- Rapid assessment;
- National Quality Agenda IT systems;
- Access to data collection on child sexual abuse cases in childcare centres;
- Productivity Commission report into Early Childhood Education and Care; and
- National Quality Framework Child Safe Culture Guide.

Outcome 1: Early Childhood and Youth

- Inclusion Development Fund Manager - contract with Deloitte;
- Foreign-owned early learning centres;
- Child Care Subsidy (CCS);
- Building Early Education Fund;
- Community Child Care Fund grants given to for-profit providers;
- CCS compliance actions for not meeting the National Quality Standards;
- Worker retention payment;
- 2025 election commitment to open new childcare centres; and
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.

Outcome 2: Higher Education, Research and International

- Commonwealth Prac Payments;
- Interim Australian Tertiary Education Commission;
- Job-ready graduates scheme;
- International students; and
- *Universities Accord (Cutting Student Debt by 20 Per Cent) Act 2025*.

Australian National University (ANU)

- Performance of the Chancellor;
- Establishment of the Chancellor's Perth office;
- Kambri Indigenous Undergraduate Scholarship program;
- Early entry offer numbers;
- Renew ANU program;
- Attendance of officers at the committee's hearing into university governance;
- Implementation of recommendations from the committee's interim report for its inquiry into university governance;
- Compliance Assessment by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency; and
- Severance remuneration for Professor Genevieve Bell.

Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

- Australian National University compliance assessment;
- Antisemitism at the University of Sydney;
- Reducing the burden of regulation and improving productivity; and
- Managing external actors.

The committee agreed to release the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited and the Australian Research Council from the hearing.

The committee will continue its examination of the 2025-26 Supplementary Budget Estimates on Wednesday, 3 December 2025.

Please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 3521 or eec.sen@aph.gov.au if you have any questions.