

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.8 Income Support for People with Disability

Question No: SQ16-000239

Topic: DSP

Hansard page: 37

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Now that we have settled that, are you able to tell me now the number of people who are going through that process of the 18 months of trying to find work before they are considered for DSP?

Answer:

A Program of Support is designed to give people the skills they need to find and keep a job, and includes activities such as job preparation and job search, education and training, injury management and vocational rehabilitation.

To meet the requirements for a Program of Support, a person must access a service wholly or partly funded by the Commonwealth, including Job Services Australia, Australian Disability Enterprises and Disability Employment Services.

It is not possible to determine the number of people who are currently accessing these services who may subsequently apply for the Disability Support Pension.

In the 2014-15 financial year there were 3,254 Disability Support Pension claims rejected on the grounds that the person had not completed a Program of Support.

In the same financial year 2,185 people who applied for the Disability Support Pension were assessed as having completed a Program of Support at the time of claim. Of these 2,086 were granted and 99 of these were rejected.