

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

**Outcome Number: 2.4 Support for Child Care System Question No: SQ15-000786**

**Topic: Activity Test Changes**

**Hansard page: CA022, 5 June 2015**

**Senator Lines, Sue** asked:

Will the increased activity test lead to any withdrawal of people from the workforce? If so, how many?

**Answer:**

The Department has not modelled whether the new activity test will lead to any withdrawal of people from the workforce.

The Child Care Subsidy is designed to provide assistance with the cost of child care for parents engaged in work, training or study or other recognised activity. Families who undertake at least four hours of activity per week will be eligible for up to 18 hours of subsidised child care per week. This will assist those returning to work in a graduated manner. Parents who do more than eight hours of activity per week will be eligible for up to 36 hours of subsidised child care per week; and once parents do more than 24 hours per week they will be eligible for up to 50 hours of subsidised care per week.

Families with incomes under \$65,000 per year who do not meet the activity test will be assisted through the Child Care Safety Net.