

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 5

**Question No:** 111

**Topic:** Carer Eligibility and 25-Hour Rule

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

Eligibility for Carer Payment imposes strict 25 hour limits. This can be difficult, especially for young people of schooling age, who assist with the care of parents.

For 2009-10 and 2010-11 provide data on the numbers of people denied eligibility for Carer Payment (adult and child) under this restriction.

Is the Department aware of cases of young people juggling school hours, regularly missing school, to meet these requirements?

**Answer:**

Below is data on Carer Payment rejections for carers working more than 25 hours for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 financial years.

**Carer Payment (Adult and Child) Rejections.**

	<b>Rejections</b> <b>Due to carer working, volunteering, or studying/training</b> <b>for more than 25 hours a week</b>
<b>2009-10</b>	2,287
<b>2010-11</b>	2,398

Data on young people juggling school hours or regularly missing school to meet the 25-hour rule and retain eligibility for Carer Payment is not available.