

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000402

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

Annual figures of Commonwealth funding - undergraduate and postgraduate

Question

Please provide an updated table of annual figures of Commonwealth funding per undergraduate EFTSL and per postgraduate EFTSL since 1980, in 2015 dollars.

Answer

The attached table shows university per place funding as at February 2016.

Under the Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS), funding rates do not differ between undergraduate and postgraduate places. Any difference that may exist in average funding per place would be due to the mix of disciplines being studied.

It is not possible to disaggregate CGS funding provided for undergraduate and postgraduate Commonwealth supported places.

Per student funding is not available prior to 1989. Funding to Higher Education providers prior to 2001 included funding for Research Quantum and Research Training. While the Department has attempted to remove this funding from the operating grant to calculate a per student amount there may be a residual effect which could cause potential distortions in the per student amounts.

Per place funding as at February 2016

University revenue per student place¹

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 ⁴	2015 ⁵	2016 ⁵
Operating Grant (excluding HECS) (\$bn) ²	1.787	1.935	2.155	2.166	2.322	2.868	2.947	2.935	2.836	2.668	2.540	2.541	2.575	2.651	2.710	2.844												
Commonwealth per place funding (\$bn) ³																	2.997	3.208	3.458	3.766	3.949	4.627	4.761	5.477	6.001	6.300	6.300	6.700
Commonwealth loadings (\$bn)																	0.041	0.042	0.043	0.044	0.155	0.220	0.285	0.359	0.106	0.100	0.100	
TOTAL COMMONWEALTH CONTRIBUTION (\$bn)	1.787	1.935	2.155	2.166	2.322	2.868	2.947	2.935	2.836	2.668	2.540	2.541	2.575	2.651	2.710	2.844	3.081	3.295	3.549	3.859	4.154	4.847	5.046	5.837	6.108	6.426	6.400	6.800
HECS Liabilities (\$bn)	0.511	0.575	0.679	0.781	0.815	0.869	0.907	0.956	1.191	1.373	1.526	1.638	1.753	1.864	1.907	1.919												
Student contribution amounts (\$bn)																	2.121	2.152	2.410	2.675	2.807	3.220	3.271	3.618	4.251	4.586	4.800	5.000
TOTAL STUDENT CONTRIBUTION (\$bn)	0.511	0.575	0.679	0.781	0.815	0.869	0.907	0.956	1.191	1.373	1.526	1.638	1.753	1.864	1.907	1.919	2.121	2.152	2.410	2.675	2.807	3.220	3.271	3.618	4.251	4.586	4.800	5.000
TOTAL PER PLACE REVENUE (\$bn)	2.298	2.510	2.834	2.948	3.136	3.737	3.854	3.891	4.027	4.042	4.067	4.180	4.328	4.515	4.616	4.764	5.202	5.447	5.959	6.534	6.961	8.067	8.317	9.455	10.359	11.011	11.200	11.800
Number of Commonwealth subsidised places	309,481	337,382	372,761	378,169	378,064	376,120	384,511	398,390	411,247	412,395	412,460	407,808	415,357	425,440	422,396	413,323	411,889	417,343	428,735	439,666	469,073	499,323	517,776	547,848	576,273	596,734	608,100	625,900
Consumer Price Index (Dec qtr of current year)	55.2	59.0	59.9	60.1	61.2	62.8	66.0	67.0	66.8	67.8	69.1	73.1	75.4	77.6	79.5	81.5	83.8	86.6	89.1	92.4	94.3	96.9	99.8	102.0	104.8	106.6	108.4	
Nominal Commonwealth Contribution per student place (\$)	5,774	5,736	5,781	5,728	6,141	7,625	7,665	7,367	6,896	6,470	6,159	6,232	6,199	6,231	6,415	6,881	7,481	7,895	8,278	8,777	8,856	9,707	9,746	10,654	10,598	10,768	10,600	10,800
Nominal student contribution per student place (\$)	1,650	1,703	1,822	2,066	2,155	2,309	2,359	2,401	2,895	3,331	3,700	4,018	4,220	4,382	4,514	4,644	5,148	5,157	5,621	6,083	5,984	6,449	6,317	6,604	7,377	7,685	7,800	8,000
Nominal funding per student (\$)	7,424	7,439	7,603	7,795	8,296	9,935	10,024	9,767	9,791	9,800	9,859	10,250	10,419	10,613	10,929	11,525	12,630	13,052	13,899	14,861	14,840	16,156	16,064	17,258	17,975	18,452	18,400	18,800
Real Commonwealth Contribution per student place (2015 dollars)	11,339	10,539	10,461	10,332	10,877	13,162	12,589	11,919	11,191	10,344	9,662	9,241	8,913	8,704	8,747	9,153	9,677	9,882	10,071	10,297	10,180	10,859	10,586	11,323	10,963	10,950	10,600	10,700
Real student contribution per student place (2015 dollars)	3,241	3,129	3,298	3,727	3,817	3,986	3,875	3,884	4,698	5,325	5,804	5,958	6,066	6,122	6,155	6,177	6,660	6,456	6,839	7,137	6,879	7,214	6,862	7,019	7,630	7,814	7,800	7,900
Real funding per student (2015 dollars)	14,580	13,668	13,759	14,059	14,694	17,148	16,464	15,803	15,889	15,669	15,467	15,199	14,979	14,826	14,902	15,329	16,337	16,338	16,910	17,434	17,059	18,073	17,448	18,341	18,593	18,764	18,400	18,500

¹ as at February 2016

² includes funding for over-enrolments (1998 to 2004) and Workplace Reform Funds (2000 to 2004). Funding for Research Quantum, Research Training and National Institutes has been subtracted from Operating Grant in all years

³ includes Workplace Reform Program for 2005 to 2009 (after which this funding was rolled into the Commonwealth Grant Scheme)

⁴ 2014 figures are the reconciled amount with no efficiency dividend applied.

⁵ figures for 2015 onwards are based on estimates and assume implementation of the efficiency dividend and 2014-15 Budget higher education reforms. 2016 figures include impact of delaying reforms by one year, figures for 2017 onwards do not include the impact of the delay.