

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Skills and Training**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000291**

Senator Cameron, Doug provided in writing

***VET Student Loans Scheme - number of students***

**Question**

What is the total number of students approved under the new VET Student Loans scheme? How many VET FEE-HELP students have elected to be grandfathered under the old loans scheme? What is the total number of students that are in the new scheme and grandfathered combined? How does this compare with the number of students in 2016?

**Answer**

As at 13 March 2017:

- **18,556** students had applied for a loan under the new VET Student Loans (VSL) program.
- **60,857** students had opted-in to be grandfathered in the VET FEE-HELP (VFH) scheme.
- The number of students across the two programs is **78,983**. This is less than the combined totals of 1 and 2 above (79,413) because **430** students have loans under both VFH and VSL.

Between 1 January and 31 December 2016:

- **193,873** students undertook one or more units of study with support of a VET FEE-HELP scheme loan.