

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000384

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing.

School funding

Question

Is the SRS model, as prescribed in the Act, determined on the basis of 2011 data?

- a. Have calculations for the per student amounts been updated on the basis of later data?
- b. Have calculations and determinations for the loadings been updated on the basis of later data?
- c. Please share any later calculations of SRS funding elements, using updated data.

Answer

- (a) The 2014 Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) base primary and secondary funding amounts are set out in section 34 of the *Australian Education Act 2013* and are indexed each year as prescribed by the legislation. The 2014 amounts were calculated on the basis of 2011 data and then grown into 2014 prices.

The old Commonwealth per student amounts (section 58), which form the starting point for current arrangements, have been determined on the basis of 2013 data for non-government schools and 2011 *My School* data for government schools. These amounts are indexed each year according to section 60 of the Act.

- (b) Calculations of loadings amounts are regularly updated to reflect the latest available enrolment and school characteristic data. The methodology for the calculations and determinations of loadings is prescribed by the Act and associated Regulation, which have not changed.
- (c) The methodology for calculating SRS funding elements is consistent with the Act and has not been updated.