

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000732

Senator Paterson, James provided in writing

National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education

Question

Under the Government's 2018 extension to the National Partnership Agreement to Universal Access to Early Childhood Education, how much funding is allocated per child? What is the basis for the estimated number of children these figures are calculated on?

Answer

The Australian Government has committed \$428 million to extend the existing National Partnership for 2018. This means that every preschool-aged child will notionally attract \$1237 in Commonwealth funding in 2018.

The estimated number of children attracting funding under the National Partnership extension has been calculated using projected enrolment growth for 2018 based on 2016 preschool enrolment data from table 2 of the ABS' *Preschool Education, Australia, 2016* publication, available at: www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4240.0. This results in a total estimated number of children attracting funding in 2018 of 345,977.

The per child contribution has been calculated by deriving a 2017 per child funding amount under the current National Partnership for 2016–2017 (\$1212) and applying two per cent indexation to arrive at an increased per child contribution of \$1237.

Actual distribution of this funding is a matter for state and territory governments.