

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000765

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing

Schools funding - NT government approved authority

Question

Does the NT government approved authority (i.e. NT government schools) have the lowest growth rate of all government school systems?

Does the Northern Territory Government approved authority have funding reductions in real terms (after accounting for proposed inflation, as measured by the wage/CPI composite index proposed in the Bill)?

Answer

Over the next decade the average per student amount for the NT government system will continue to be the highest of all government systems to reflect greater levels of need.

Under the new funding arrangements, the NT government system is estimated to have the lowest annual growth rate in recurrent funding per student compared to other government systems as all states and territories converge on a consistent Commonwealth share of the Schooling Resource Standard. All states and territories and all schools will receive the same indexation rates once the transition is complete.

In addition to the \$2.3 billion in Commonwealth recurrent funding that will be provided to NT government schools between 2018 and 2027, an additional \$78.5 million will be provided to accelerate evidence-based reforms to improve student outcomes for some of our most vulnerable children. This additional funding means that on current estimates the growth for the NT government system will be above cost increases.