

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000809

Senator Collins, Jacinta provided in writing

Students with Disabilities loading

Question

- What proportion of the SWD loading each year from 2017 to 2027 goes to (a) Government schools (b) Catholic systemic schools (c) independent schools?

- What proportion of the increase in funding for the SWD loading each year from 2018 to 2027 goes to (a) Government schools (b) Catholic systemic schools (c) independent schools?

Answer

The students with disability (SWD) loading is integrated into the calculation of funding entitlements and inextricably linked to the calculation of transition, base funding and other loadings. Therefore the amount provided is only notionally attributed to the loading. The SWD loading is not intended as funding earmarked to be spent on specific students; rather it enables schools to provide education to all students in a way that better supports students with disability. The Australian Government is continuing to consult on disability funding distribution and final settings are subject to regulations.

The government schools sector will attract more disability funding than the relevant share of total Commonwealth recurrent funding. For example, in 2018 government schools will attract 40 per cent of the total Commonwealth recurrent funding and 42.7 per cent of funding for students with disability.

Estimated Proportion of Commonwealth recurrent funding attributed to the SWD loading by sector

	2017*	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
G	41.6%	42.7%	43.4%	44.1%	44.6%	45.1%	45.6%	45.7%	45.8%	45.9%	46.0%
C	35.8%	30.8%	30.1%	29.4%	28.9%	28.3%	27.9%	27.7%	27.6%	27.5%	27.5%
I	22.7%	26.5%	26.5%	26.5%	26.5%	26.6%	26.6%	26.6%	26.6%	26.5%	26.5%

G = government, C = Catholic systemic, I = independent
Data as at the 2017-18 Budget

* 2017 estimates are based on 2016 schools census data and departmental enrolment projections. Census SWD data is determined by whether a student meets the requirements of the state or territory in which the school is located for financial assistance to be provided in relation to the student as a student with disability. The 2017 census data on SWD will inform the final 2017 loadings, with any changes to funding reconciled with the final recurrent funding payments for the year, as per usual departmental processes.

Estimated Increase in Commonwealth recurrent funding attributed to the SWD loading by sector

	2018 [#]	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
G	8.8%	7.3%	7.7%	6.8%	6.7%	6.7%	6.5%	6.4%	6.4%	6.4%
C	-8.1%	4.3%	4.7%	4.4%	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.5%
I	24.2%	6.1%	6.5%	6.1%	6.0%	5.8%	5.7%	5.5%	5.4%	5.4%
ALL	6.3%	6.1%	6.5%	5.9%	5.9%	5.8%	5.7%	5.6%	5.5%	5.6%

*G = government, C = Catholic systemic, I = independent
Data as at the 2017–18 Budget*

From 2018 to 2027 the number of students estimated to attract the new SWD loading will be fully informed by the latest available data reported annually Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD), these estimates are made using the 2016 NCCD data, and grown according to the latest departmental enrolment projections.