

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care

Department of Education Question No. ED0426_15

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Refers to previous Question No ED0247_15.

Question

HECS-HELP - early childhood students

I refer to answer to Question on Notice ED0247_15, where the department indicated that the HECS-HELP benefit program was scrapped because the take-up was low. Of course, it is a savings measure for the government. Can the department provide the numbers people per annum studying to become early childhood teachers that applied for HECS-HELP and the total numbers of students per annum studying to become early childhood teachers for the duration of the program?

Answer

- a) The number of early childhood education graduates whose applications were approved in each year of the HECS-HELP Benefit reduction scheme are as follows:

2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
35	184	162	384	674

Source: Higher Education Loan Program – HECS-HELP Benefit Analysis Report, Australian Taxation Office, 2014

- b) The number of Commonwealth supported student enrolments in early childhood education are as follows:

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
10,908	12,016	13,078	14,764	14,399

Source: Higher Education Data Collection, Department of Education, 2014