

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-001012

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Question

Youth Jobs PaTH - internship wage

What is the current national minimum wage? (\$17.70 per hour) So it is correct, isn't it, that interns participating in the PaTH program will be working in private sector businesses for less than the national minimum wage?

Answer

A Youth Jobs PaTH Internship is not a job, it is supervised work experience. Youth Jobs PaTH interns are not employees and will continue to receive income support rather than a wage. Accordingly there is no hourly rate. PaTH internship placements, as with other existing work experience placements in employment services, will be covered by provisions in the Social Security Act which provide that participating in a Youth Jobs PaTH internship does not make that person an employee under the Fair Work Act.