

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research & International

Department of Education Question No. ED0280_14

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question

Efficiency dividend to higher education payments

1. How many legislative instruments have been introduced to the House of Representatives or to the Senate which apply the efficiency dividend to higher education payments?
 - a) Which disallowable instruments are these (please provide FRLI number)?
 - b) Which programs or grants have had the higher education efficiency dividend applied via legislative instruments currently before the Parliament?
 - c) How much money will be removed from programs or grants (by program or grant) through applying the efficiency dividend through such instruments?
2. What other higher education programs or grants could have the higher education efficiency dividend applied to them through legislative instrument?

Answer

1. Two.

a) The two legislative instruments introduced to apply the efficiency dividend are:

- Amendment No. 1 to the *Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines 2012* (F2013C01015); and
- the remade *Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Education) 2013* (F2013L02070).

b) The efficiency dividend was applied through legislative instruments to the:

- Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS) regional, enabling and medical student loadings, which form part of a higher education provider's grant under the CGS.
- Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships, the 'pre 2010 grandfathered' Commonwealth Scholarships, and Indigenous Staff Scholarships.

c) The estimated savings over four years (2013-2014 to 2016-2017) at the time of the 2013-2014 Budget was \$12 million for CGS loadings and \$2 million for Education Scholarships.

2. The only other program to which the Government decided to apply an efficiency dividend and which requires a legislative instrument to give effect to the decision is the Higher Education Disability Support Program.