

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.2 – New Apprenticeships

DEST Question No. E159_04

Senator Campbell asked on 5 June 2003, EWRE Hansard pages 423-424

Question:

Can you provide us with the current suite of programs that provide incentives for enterprises to use VET to upgrade their employee skills and how much is spent each year on these programs?

Answer:

New Apprenticeships Incentives Programme

The only Australian Government programme that provides incentives to enterprises to upgrade their employee skills is the New Apprenticeships Incentives Programme (NAIP). NAIP, which forms part of the 'Support for New Apprenticeships' detailed on page 132 of the Portfolio Budget Statements under Output 2.2, encourages employers, through financial incentives, to open up genuine opportunities for skills-based training of their employees.

Actual expenditure for 'Support for New Apprenticeships' in 2002-2003 was \$443.3 million. This amount includes funding providing for Living Away From Home Allowance (LAFHA) and Disabled Apprentice Wage Subsidy (DAWS) both of which are elements of NAIP. LAFHA is paid directly to New Apprentices who have moved from their family residence for the first time to undertake New Apprenticeship arrangements and DAWS is paid to employers as a wage subsidy for disabled apprentices.

The table below details expenditure on NAIP since 1999-2000 when the Australian Government contracted the national network of New Apprenticeships Centres to administer the NAIP in respect of eligible employers and New Apprentices.

	Year	Amount (\$m)
Actual	1999-2000	282.8
Actual	2000-2001	321.1
Actual	2001-2002	376.5
Actual	2002-2003	443.3
Estimate	2003-2004	533.5