

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education

DEST Question No. E270_04

Senator Crossin asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

Can the Department provide any details on the timeline for the inclusion of Indigenous students as a National Priority area?

Answer:

National Priority funding

The current places funded at the Broome campus of the University of Notre Dame Australia (UNDA) in Indigenous education will be converted to national priority places. This will be effective from 2005. The additional 745 new Commonwealth supported student places by 2008 (270 commencing in 2005) will be allocated to private higher education institutions over four years from 2005 for national priorities on the basis of the Commonwealth's assessment of needs and priorities, in consultation with the States and Territories with regard to labour market needs. Funds for the Indigenous Support programme were increased in the package, and a range of other initiatives are directed at improving access for, and support of, Indigenous students and staff.