

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.5 – Assistance for post school students including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E116_05

Senator Stott Despoja provided in writing.

Refers to E673_04

Question:

Please update the answer to question E673_04 with 2003 figures.

(On 2003 enrolment figures, what percentage of commencing rural students would have received a Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship).

Answer:

Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship

The Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships (CAS) will provide full-time undergraduate students from low socio-economic backgrounds and from rural and regional areas with \$4,000 per year for up to four years to assist them with accommodation expenses when they have to move to undertake higher education.

In 2004, 3,000 CAS will be provided. By 2008, 3,574 new scholarships will be awarded each year and approximately 17,169 students will have received a CAS. The Government will provide \$199.22 million over five years for CAS.

Data on 2004 commencing students are not yet available. Using 2003 data, approximately 38.6% of eligible commencing rural students would have access to one of the 3,000 CAS which are on offer in 2004. In 2005, the number of new CAS will be increased to 3,514. Using this figure and 2003 student data, approximately 45.3% of eligible commencing rural students would have access to a CAS.