

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.2 – Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E579_06 - Final

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Refers to DEST Question No E105_06.

Question:

Is the voucher available for those who were in Year 3 in 2003 and will have missed out on the initiative and will this year have taken the year 5 test?

Answer:

Tutorial Voucher Initiative – Year 5 student participation

The Tutorial Voucher Initiative was introduced by the Australian Government as a pilot programme to assist the parents/caregivers of children who were below the Year 3 national reading benchmark in 2003.

As a pilot scheme, the Tutorial Voucher Initiative was designed to run across a limited timeframe in each State and Territory.

Cut-off dates have now passed for all States and Territories except the Northern Territory. Tutorial Vouchers offered under the pilot Initiative are no longer available except in the Northern Territory.

In some States, where the brokers were not part of an education authority, the State Government either did not advise eligible parents as agreed at the May 2005 MCEETYA meeting, or advised parents too late. The Australian Government is considering ways to provide tutorial reading assistance to those students.