

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0537\_11**

**Senator Siewert provided in writing.**

**Question**

**COSTS OF JSA AND WORK EXPERIENCE**

What is the average unit cost of assistance in each of the Streams of JSA, and specifically in the work experience phase of each stream?

**Answer**

The Job Services Australia model requires providers to deliver tailored assistance to each job seeker for the duration of their unemployment. Consequently, it is not possible to derive a meaningful average unit cost of assistance at a single point in time.

The service fees which a Job Services Australia provider receives for each job seeker in each stream are set out in the following table.

(1) Stream and time in Payment Period	(2) Service Fees	(3) Service Fees—Remote ESAs only
<b>Stream 1</b>		
First 13-weeks Includes the Initial Interview	\$63	\$107
Second 13-weeks Includes Skills Assessment and managing Intensive Activities	\$528	\$898
Third 13-weeks	\$94	\$160
Fourth 13-weeks	\$96	\$163
Maximum for Stream 1	\$781	\$1328
<b>Stream 2</b>		
First 13-weeks Includes the Initial Interview	\$271	\$461
Second 13-weeks	\$208	\$354
Third 13-weeks	\$202	\$343
Fourth 13-weeks	\$204	\$347
Maximum for Stream 2	\$885	\$1505

(1) Stream and time in Payment Period	(2) Service Fees	(3) Service Fees—Remote ESAs only
<b>Stream 3</b>		
First 13-weeks Includes the Initial Interview	\$332	\$564
Second 13-weeks	\$264	\$449
Third 13-weeks	\$257	\$437
Fourth 13-weeks	\$267	\$454
Maximum for Stream 3	\$1120	\$1904
<b>Stream 4</b>		
First 13-weeks Service Fees for the first two periods include Initial Interview and Skills Assessment	\$587	\$998
Second 13-weeks	\$512	\$870
Third 13-weeks	\$409	\$695
Fourth 13-weeks	\$411	\$699
Fifth 13-weeks	\$402	\$683
Sixth 13 weeks	\$415	\$706
Maximum for Stream 4	\$2736	\$4651
<b>Work Experience Phase</b>		
First 13-weeks	\$456	\$775
Second 13-weeks	\$66	\$112
Third 13-weeks	\$133	\$226
Fourth 13-weeks	\$67	\$114

Work experience activities are also individual to the job seeker and do not have an average unit cost. The Job Services Australia provider is credited \$500 from the Employment Pathway Fund for each job seeker commencing the work experience phase. However, the provider can utilise these Employment Pathway Fund credits flexibly across their full job seeker caseload (ie. the credit is not tied to the individual job seeker). In addition, the Job Services Australia provider can access a range of work experience options for job seekers which are not funded from the Employment Pathway Fund, eg state and territory funded training and employment programs, volunteer work or Defence Force Reserves.