

**Question on Notice
No. 199
Asked on 23 April 2009**

MR McARDLE asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health (MR LUCAS)-

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the annual Queensland Government budget and actual cost (reported separately) in 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2008-09 (to date) for clinical training and education (reported separately) for (a) medical (undergraduate and postgraduate/specialist), (b) nursing and midwifery (undergraduate and postgraduate) and (c) allied health (undergraduate and postgraduate)?

ANSWER:

Queensland Health advises that while there are designated training positions such as Nurse Educators and other resources, the overwhelming majority of clinical education and training occurs in the course of the direct provision of care to patients. For example, while performing ward rounds a medical intern might accompany a senior doctor who demonstrates the insertion of a cannula into a patient's arm. In turn, the trainee will then perform the same task on a different patient under the direct supervision of the senior doctor. A similar situation occurs in the community health setting.

It is difficult to precisely measure the actual cost of clinical education and training activities in public hospitals because many of these activities occur simultaneously with the delivery of health care to patients. However, consistent with the approaches adopted in other jurisdictions, from 1 July 2007 Queensland Health's Resource Allocation Model (RAM) has indicated a notional clinical education budget based on consideration of the following four components:

- salaried employees in clinical training positions;
- under-graduate and post-graduate student clinical placements;
- under-graduate and post-graduate student scholarships; and
- jointly-appointed clinical academics.

The table below summarises the notionally budgeted amounts via the RAM for 2007-08 and 2008-09:

Year	Salaried Employees in Clinical Training Positions	Under-graduate and Post-graduate Student Clinical Placements	Clinical Academics	Total
2007-08	\$117.25M	\$14.11M	\$5.00M	\$136.36M
2008-09	\$134.29M	\$13.05M	\$5.00M	\$152.34M

Queensland Health advises that any decrease in the component of the RAM for under-graduate and post-graduate student clinical placements between 2007-08 and 2008-09 is a result of a different reporting mechanism being used by Health Districts.