

Question on Notice

No. 1684

Asked on 15 September 2016

MS LEAHY ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND MAJOR EVENTS (HON K JONES) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise of the following in relation to the Living Away from Home Allowances Scheme (LAFHAS) (i.e. state based boarding school tuition subsidy) for the last ten years reported separately by year (a) the number of students in receipt of LAFHAS, (b) the total of the LAFHAS paid each year by the state government and (c) the numbers of primary and secondary students in receipt of the LAFHAS each year?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government's Living Away From Home Allowances Scheme (LAFHAS) supports families in geographically isolated areas to access financial assistance for eligible students to study away from home. The scheme has four component allowances which assist students in Years 1–12:

- Remote Area Tuition Allowance;
- Remote Area Travel Allowance;
- Remote Area Allowance; and
- Remote Area Disability Supplement.

In addition to the annual Consumer Price Index increase, the Palaszczuk Government boosted the LAFHAS Scheme for 2016 with a 5% increase to the Remote Area Tuition Allowance, Remote Area Allowance and Remote Area Disability Supplement.

I also recently approved an additional LAFHAS Drought Supplement Payment of \$1,250 per student per calendar year for 2016 and 2017 as a mechanism to provide additional assistance to families in drought declared rural and remote locations, as part of the Palaszczuk Government's \$36 million Rural Assistance Package.

The following table details the number of students in receipt of LAFHAS and the total of LAFHAS payments each year from 2006 to 2016.

Year	Total primary students in receipt of LAFHAS	Total secondary students in receipt of LAFHAS	Total students in receipt of LAFHAS	Total LAFHAS Payments
2006	55	1797	1852	\$5.35 million
2007	60	1745	1805	\$5.52 million
2008	46	1728	1774	\$6.09 million
2009	38	1670	1708	\$6.18 million
2010	39	1610	1649	\$6.25 million
2011	28	1474	1502	\$6.03 million
2012	24	1477	1501	\$6.20 million
2013	26	1424	1450	\$6.09 million
2014	22	1414	1436	\$6.18 million
2015	21	1478	1499	\$7.12 million
2016	22	1416	1438	\$7.23 million