

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 648**  
**Asked on 25 May 2021**

**DR C ROWAN** ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the Distance Education ICT Subsidy Scheme and for the 2020 school year—  
Will the Minister advise how many students received subsidies under (a) hardware subsidy, (b) broadband internet subsidy and (c) in respect of both (a) and (b), what was the total cost of the scheme?

ANSWER:

The School of Distance Education ICT Subsidy Scheme offsets the cost of computer equipment and internet access for students enrolled in a State School of Distance Education under two subsidies—Computer Hardware Subsidy and Broadband Internet Subsidy.

Under the Computer Hardware Subsidy, an annual payment of \$250 is available to eligible students to assist with purchasing, replacing or upgrading computer hardware for students who are identified as belonging to the geographically isolated or medical categories.

Under the Broadband Internet Subsidy, an annual payment of \$500 is available to eligible students to assist with the provision of broadband internet access for students who are identified as belonging to the geographically isolated category.

In 2020, the number of students who received the subsidy and total cost of the scheme is detailed in the table below.

<b>Subsidy</b>	<b>Number of students</b>
Computer Hardware Subsidy	2257.2
Broadband Internet Subsidy	992
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>\$1,060,300</b>