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FROM THE MINISTER

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THE LIBRARY  
14 FEB  
NI ASSEMBLY

10 February 2012

SUB/69/12

Dear

*Peter*

In a recent written assembly question (AQW 5942/11-15), you sought details of the number of (i) Bar students and (ii) solicitor students at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies who received grants in each of the last ten years and the average grant paid in each of these years.

In my response to you dated 4 January 2012, I advised that it was not possible to include statistics from the Belfast Education and Library Board due to technical difficulties which prevented it from accessing the required information in the time-frame available. I also gave a commitment to forward updated figures when the information became available. The Belfast Education and Library Board has now provided the required information and the statistics have been updated accordingly.

In academic year 2004/05, 24 Northern Ireland domiciled bar students studying at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies had their tuition fees of £3,010 paid in full. Of those 24 students, 16 were eligible to receive a means-tested maintenance grant with an average grant paid of £1,146.

In academic year 2004/05, 81 Northern Ireland domiciled solicitor students studying at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies had their tuition fees of £3,010 paid in full. Of those 81 students, 48 were eligible to receive a means-tested maintenance grant with an average grant paid of £1,104.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

*Stephen Farry*

**DR STEPHEN FARRY MLA**  
**Minister for Employment and Learning**



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