

Education and Employment Committee / Department of the Senate / VET Student Loans inquiry

Please find following additional evidence as requested regarding NIDA VET diploma student completion rates and graduate /employment outcomes.

2015

To meet industry need, NIDA delivered, for the first time, 2 X VET diplomas

1. Diploma of Musical Theatre

- 100% student completion
- 78% of graduates entered the workforce in 2016 (employers include Storeyboard Entertainment at Melbourne City Recital Hall; CDP Theatre Producers at Parramatta Riverside Theatres /Sydney Opera House; Anthony Crowley at Chapel off Chapel; Life Like Touring /national tour; Ambassador Theatre Group; NIDA)

2. Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services

- 83% student completion
- 80% of graduates entered the workforce in 2016 (employers including Sydney Opera House; Opera Australia; Pinchgut Opera; Circus Oz; Cirque du Soleil; Hayes Theatre; JPJ Audio; UNSW venues)

NIDA places technical diploma students with entertainment industry partners at the end of their training to facilitate students into the workforce.

2016

To meet industry need, NIDA is delivering 3 X VET diplomas

1. Diploma of Musical Theatre

- 100% student completion
- 16 of 20 students who have recently completed their training, have been invited by agents /managers to meetings regarding representation

2. Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services

- 100% student completion likely – training is still underway

3. Diploma of Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services)

- 90% student completion likely – training is still underway

2017

To meet industry need, NIDA plans to deliver 4 X VET diplomas

1. Diploma of Musical Theatre (not on the proposed eligible course list)

2. Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services (on the proposed eligible course list)

3. Diploma of Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services) (on the proposed eligible course list)

4. Diploma of Stage and Screen Performance (not on the proposed eligible course list)

NIDA is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Registered as a privately operated RTO, **NIDA delivers its VET training on behalf of the Commonwealth**, as NIDA is funded by the Australian Government.

NIDA income:

- **Australian Government (through the Ministry of the Arts)**
- **Private Philanthropy**
- **Corporate Sponsorship**
- **Student fees**

2017 projected fees income for NIDA VET Diplomas

Course	Fees per student	No. of students	Total fees income
Musical Theatre	\$18,000	19	\$342,000
Live Production and Technical Services	\$11,000	11	\$121,000
Screen and Media (Specialist Make-up Services)	\$14,000	13	\$182,000
Stage and Screen Performance	\$16,000	15	\$240,000
Total		58	\$885,000

2017 projected direct delivery costs for NIDA VET Diplomas

casual /guest staff	\$548,508
ongoing staff	\$323,244
production /materials /equipment	\$137,500
Total	\$1,009,252

At the inquiry NIDA was asked why Creative Arts Courses were not on any State Skills List. NIDA's remit is national, and its 4 VET diploma offerings were brought into scope as a result of market /industry research conducted at a national level.

NIDA was asked to provide examples of meetings /lobbying re State Skills Lists. NIDA has not been engaged in meetings /lobbying re State Skills Lists.

NIDA was unaware that reference to the State Skills Lists would be the determinant in creating the eligible course list. Course advisory groups made up of multiple industry representatives and ongoing formal industry consultation, have assisted NIDA in deciding on skills gaps /industry training needs.

At the inquiry, others tendered evidence that the State Skills Lists were to do with identifying State Skills funding priorities and not to do with skills needs per se. There was a perception that the States had decided skills development in the Creative Arts would receive support at a national level.

NIDA is able to provide the Australian Government with certainty that courses are credible and industry focussed, with identified employability outcomes for graduates. Both the Diploma of Musical Theatre and the ASQA accredited, industry required, Diploma of Stage and Screen Performance will graduate a limited number of students to ensure the entertainment industries have the best possibility to evolve, and to continue to contribute to the well-being of Australia's economy.

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