

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012

Question: E12-136

**OUTCOME 0:** Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** EDUCATION EXPENSES

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Number of pages:** 2

**Senator:** Senator Boyce

**Question:**

- a) Has there been a change to the department/agency's guidelines on study since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates (May 2012)? If yes, please provide details.
- b) For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

**Answer:**

- a) There has been no change to the Department of Health and Ageing's guidelines on study since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates.

The National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) Study Assistance Scheme Policy and Procedures were reviewed in mid-2012 and the following changes were made:

- There is more emphasis on undergraduate rather than post-graduate qualifications.
- Financial support has been capped at 50 per cent of the upfront discounted course fee.
- In line with internal students, external/distance students will only be supported to attend compulsory course requirements (eg lectures, tutorials, residentials) that are scheduled during business hours. No additional study time will be approved for external students.

b)

Department / Portfolio Agency	FYTD expenditure (1 July 2012 – 30 September 2012)
Department of Health and Ageing, including the Aged Care Commissioner; National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment; Office of the Gene Technology Regulator; and the Therapeutic Goods Administration	62,476
Aged Care Standards & Accreditation Agency Ltd	698

Australian Commission on Safety & Quality in Health Care	5,196
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	7 064
Australian National Preventive Health Agency	nil
Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority	2,517
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency	5,324
Cancer Australia	1,500
Food Standards Australia and New Zealand	1,178
General Practice Education and Training	4,047
Health Workforce Australia	3,000
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	nil
National Blood Authority	nil
National Health and Medical Research Council	9,992
National Health Funding Body	nil
National Health Performance Authority	nil
Private Health Insurance Administration Council	nil
Private Health Insurance Ombudsman	nil
Professional Services Review	nil

To provide the level of detail to the remaining parts of the question, would involve an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources.