

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programs

Question No: 404

Topic: Graduate Programs

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

I assume this department runs a graduate recruitment program. Can you provide details on how that works and what has been the intake over the last three years? What are the benefits of running this program? For example, is it important for renewal in the department? Has there been any change to this program since the last election? If so, what is the nature of those changes?

Answer:

Department of Social Services has a Graduate Program. It is a 10 month development program. Over the course of the program participants are provided with two rotations in different areas of the Department, and they also complete a Diploma of Government.

The intake over the past three years (former FaHCSIA) has been 65 (2013), 49 (2012) and 58 (2011). The graduate program is an important entry level strategy to build the capacity of the APS and ensure highly skilled staff are available for APS 5-6 and EL levels in three to five years following completion of the program.

There have been no significant changes to the program since the last election.