

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

**Budget Estimates**

29 May – 31 May 2012

**Question: BET 1079-1080**

**Topic: Education Expenses (ACCC)**

**Hansard Page: Written (Received from Committee - 13 June 2012)**

**Senator BUSHBY asked:**

1079. What are the department/agency's guidelines on study? Please provide details.
1080. 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:**

1079. The ACCC's Study Assistance Scheme provides that employees at all levels are eligible for studies assistance in the form of study leave and full or partial reimbursement of tuition fees for approved courses of study provided that they meet certain criteria. The study leave policy provides a 100% reimbursement for under-graduate studies where it has direct relevance to the ACCC's operational requirements and 75% for post-graduate studies.
1080. For this financial year to date (1 July 2011 to 31 May 2012) the ACCC's education expenses are \$1 940 814, comprised as follows:

Education expenses	2011-12 FYTD \$
Training courses, conferences and seminars	1 078 072
Studies assistance	133 096
Learning and development team staff costs	729 646

Additional travel costs and costs for staff time attending the courses is not included in the direct costs above.

The majority of claims made under the ACCC's Study Assistance Scheme concern study in the fields of Economics, Law and Business/Commerce which are directly relevant to the ACCC's operational requirements.