

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Agency: ACARA**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000342**

Senator Ludwig, Joe provided in writing

***ACARA: Travel costs - department***

**Question**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Is the minister or their office or their delegate required to approve all departmental and agency international travel?
2. If so, under what policy?
3. Provide a copy of that policy.
4. When was this policy implemented?
5. When is the minister notified, when is approved provided?
6. Detail all travel (domestic and international) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals).
7. Detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.
8. What date was the minister or their office notified of the travel?
9. What date did the minister or their office approve the travel?
10. What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel.

**Answer**

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response.

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. No
2. Not applicable
3. Not applicable
4. Not applicable
5. Not applicable
6. No ACARA employee or representative accompanied the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary on any travel between 14 September 2015 and 31 January 2016.
7. ACARA has provided the following response

## Domestic Travel Expenditure 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016

	Project Related	Board Related	General Operations	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Airfares	58,058	25,846	31,554	115,458
Accommodation	21,636	2,004	10,843	34,483
Incidentals	6092	650	3045	9787
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,786</b>	<b>28,500</b>	<b>45,442</b>	<b>159,729</b>

## Overseas Travel Expenditure 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016

	\$
Airfares	46,050
Accommodation	1,253
Incidentals	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,303</b>

ACARA officials travel nationally for stakeholder forums, other consultation and stakeholder meetings and, less frequently, to attend conferences. ACARA officers travel internationally for international forums, conferences and to undertake international projects.

ACARA does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to elements of this question. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.

8. Not applicable

9. Not applicable

10. ACARA does not record travel data in a way that would readily allow answers to be provided to these questions. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources.