

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Agency: ASQA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000592

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

ASQA: Access Group Training (SQ15-000674)

Question

In answer to SQ15-000674 ASQA advised that Access Group Training has non-compliance issues in the areas of assessment, enrolment practices and marketing material. ASQA also advised that in the courses audited at the time there were 2,524 students enrolled in the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care.

- Have the 2,524 students who were enrolled at Access Group Training while there were non-compliance issues graduated yet? If yes, how many?
- Is the Department confident that these students are suitably qualified given the non-compliance issues that ASQA found at the time? If yes, how can they be confident?

Answer

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) provided the following response.

There were 2524 students enrolled in the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care at Access Group Training at the time of audit.

Access Group Training has reported issuance of the following qualifications for Certificate III and Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care:

- November 2015 - 46
- December 2015 - 158
- January 2016 - 98
- February 2016 - 173.

ASQA is committed to working with the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority, peak bodies representing employers and other relevant stakeholders to improve the process for, and coverage of, early childhood education and care employers informing ASQA of concerns they may have about the quality of training and assessment provided by registered training organisations.

ASQA does not assume that a student is not competent because a provider is found to be non-compliant at a particular point in time (i.e. at audit). The policy framework for Australia's VET system is based on the regulation of RTOs, rather than the regulation of each individual learner. The NVR Act provisions assume cancellation is a specific response to particular circumstances and, if based on a concern that an individual's actual competencies do not meet the certified competencies awarded to the individual, this would be preceded by an individual reassessment of the person's actual competencies.