

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000384

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Grants

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

1. What guidelines are in place to administer grants?
2. How are grants applied for?
3. Are there any restrictions on who can apply for a grant? If yes, please detail.
 - a. Can these restrictions be waved? If yes, please detail the process for waving them and list any grants where the restrictions were waved.
4. What is the procedure for selecting who will be awarded a grant?
5. Who is involved in this selection process?
6. Does the minister or the minister's office play any role in awarding grants? If yes, please detail.
 - a. Has the minister or the minister's office exercised or attempted to exercise any influence over the awarding of any grants? If yes, please detail.
7. Provide a list of all grants, including ad hoc, one-off discretionary grants awarded to date. Provide the recipients, amount, intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those locations.
8. Update the status of each grant that was approved prior to the specified period, but did not have financial contracts in place at that time. Provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants, what locations have benefited from the grants and the electorate and state of those grants.

Answer

Information on the grants processes and guidelines, and details of grants awarded are published on the Department's website www.employment.gov.au/grants.

The Department of Employment follows the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines when designing and managing grants. The process for applying for grants varies, with eligibility and submission criteria specific for each program. Each program has specific criteria for awarding grants. Each program is made up of a specific selection committee who may shortlist and select grant participants.

To identify grants approved but not yet contracted since 14 September 2015 would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.