

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-003995

Senator Marshall asked in writing

Question

PaTH - Number of businesses participating

"How many businesses have signed up to take PaTH participants since the website allowed that? Are they all signing up online, or are they being funnelled in other ways?

How many businesses are needed to find placements for the estimated 120,000 participants?

How many of the businesses signed up are small to medium enterprises?

How many are large businesses? "

Answer

The advertising of internship opportunities commenced on 27 March 2017. As at 10 April 2017, 86 internship vacancies have been advertised online. Of these, 55 have been lodged by businesses and 31 lodged by providers.

It is estimated that 18,000–20,000 businesses will be required to achieve 30,000 placements per year.

The Department has implemented an employer mobilisation strategy to promote the program among employers. Additionally, employment service providers will use their existing relationships with local business to identify internship opportunities.

The Department does not identify the size of businesses advertising internship opportunities. However, in developing the PaTH Internship program, departmental research suggests that small to medium enterprises (those with fewer than 200 employees) make up the majority of employing businesses (99%) and consequently offer the majority of potential internship opportunities.