

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

**Outcome: Skills and Training**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000740**

Senator Griff, Stirling provided in writing

***Unsuccessful applicants***

**Question**

Are unsuccessful applicants given detailed reasons for why they were unsuccessful, or are they just provided with the broad reason or criteria under which they failed?

- a. If a detailed assessment is not provided to the applicant, why not?
- b. In circumstances where the rejection is due to financial performance, is there any issue in providing a copy of the financial analysis relied on by the department to the applicant?

**Answer**

- a) Following the assessment of applications for approval to become a VET Student Loans approved course provider, all applicants were informed that feedback on their application was available upon request.

Applicants that requested feedback were provided with a summary of their assessment against each of the provider suitability requirements. Feedback is specific to the applicant.

Feedback is focussed on improving the quality of applications for future rounds and includes a general guidance fact sheet that highlights the characteristics of strong applications.

- b) Financial analysis involves professional knowledge and judgement to assess the provider's suitability against a range of indicators. Applicants are not provided with the full financial analysis, however, if they seek feedback on their application they are provided with a summary of their assessment against each of the provider suitability requirements including financial performance.

The Department of Education and Training may discuss with individual applicants areas for improvement, including financial performance, to assist them for future application rounds