

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Skills and Training

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000938

Senator Cameron, Doug provided in writing.

Skilling Australians Fund (States and Territories)

Question

What will the mechanism be for state and territory contributions to the Fund? eg Will the state and territory governments be required to provide upfront contributions to receive access to the Fund?

Will the Fund be paid to states and territories based on applications or tenders?

Will there be a ceiling on the funds available to individual states and territories?

What are the guidelines that will determine access the Fund for the states and territories?

Who in the commonwealth will make the final decision about the state and territory projects to be funded?

Answer

State and territory governments will receive payments through a national partnership agreement in accordance with the Federal Financial Relations framework. The funds will be available for approved projects based on the population share of each jurisdiction. Details of the project process and national partnership agreement are still matters under discussion with states and territories.

The Australian Government Minister with portfolio responsibility for vocational education and skills will have the final decision on approval of state and territory projects.