

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0536\_15**

**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Dept & All Agencies: Grants**

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014: 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**

The **Department of Education** manages grant programmes in accordance with the whole of government grant policy framework as established by the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines.

Guidelines for programmes managed by the Department, together with details of grants awarded are available from the department's website at [www.education.gov.au](http://www.education.gov.au)

The **Australian Research Council** (ARC) has provided the following response.

1. Funding Rules for every scheme round is published on their website [www.arc.gov.au](http://www.arc.gov.au)
2. Through Eligible Organisation-Australian Institutions
3. Yes. Details are provided in the Funding Rules
  - a) No
4. Each proposal is considered by members of the ARC College of Experts or Selection Advisory Committees. All College members are experts of international standing drawn from the Australian research community: from higher education, industry and public sector research organisations. Their recommendations are informed by detailed assessments undertaken by Australian and international peer reviewers

5. The ARC College of Experts or Selection Advisory Committees and external peer reviewers
6. Yes. Under the ARC Act the Minister must approve the proposals awarded.
  - a) No
7. Details of grants awarded is available on the ARC website at [www.arc.gov.au/about\\_arc/grants.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/about_arc/grants.htm)
8. All funding agreements are in place prior to grant commencement. Details are provided on the ARC website at [www.arc.gov.au/about\\_arc/grants.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/about_arc/grants.htm)

Other portfolio agencies do not administer grants.