

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0584_15

Senator Wright provided in writing.

Question

Teach for Australia

1. How is Teach for Australia accountable for the money it is given by the Australian Government? 2. Are there specific limits on how all or part of the funding can be used? Is so what are they? 3. Is the company required to return funding not spent specifically in the provision of services? If so, has it done so?

Answer

1. The Teach For Australia organisation (TFA) is accountable to the Australian Government through contracts entered into with the Department of Education. The contracts require TFA to submit detailed progress reports and annual audited financial statements.
2. Funding provided by the Australian Government to TFA must be used to deliver the Teach for Australia programme. The programme places high achieving graduates in disadvantaged schools to teach for a minimum of two-years while they study towards a Master of Teaching qualification. The funding provided by the Australian Government supports this outcome.
3. The contracts between TFA and the Department of Education require unspent funding to be returned, or offset against future payments. To date this has not been required.