

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Skills and Training

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000859

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

VET FEE-HELP loans at colleges under investigation by (a) the Department and (b) ASQA?

Question

How many of those students have VET FEE-HELP loans for training at colleges that are currently under investigation by (a) the Department and (b) ASQA?

Answer

- (a) It would be inappropriate to comment on this matter at this point in time as to do so may prejudice the investigations currently being undertaken.

The Department of Education and Training monitors all providers for compliance with the requirements of Schedule 1A of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* and the VET Guidelines.

- (b) As part of its VET FEE-HELP project the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) scrutinised 21 registered training organisations (or related entities) between 26 February 2015 and 29 May 2015. The registered VET providers (or related entities) audited as part of the project reported combined total of 92,768 VET FEE-HELP assisted students in 2014. The ASQA report *Targeted audits of VET FEE-HELP providers* published on 20 October 2015, and is available on ASQA's website at <http://www.asqa.gov.au/news/2925/release-of-findings-from-vet-fee-help-audit-project.html>.