

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio  
Additional Estimates Hearing 2011-12  
15 February 2012

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY

**TOPIC:** ASQA Accreditation Applications

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Payne

**QUESTION No:** AI-78

Does the Department have any appeal process for firms that have their applications for ASQA accreditation rejected? In the event that an application is wrongly rejected, or inordinately delayed due to processing times, is there any avenue for the applicant to seek compensation?

**ANSWER**

No, the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education does not have any appeal process for training providers that have their applications for ASQA accreditation rejected but there are review processes set out in Division 1 of Part 9 of the *National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011* (the NVR Act). These include reconsideration of reviewable decisions by ASQA and reviews of reviewable decisions by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Applications may be made to ASQA as the National VET Regulator or the Administrative Appeals Tribunal as appropriate.

In the event that an application is wrongly rejected, or inordinately delayed due to processing times, the NVR Act does not include provision for compensation.