

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio  
Additional Estimates Hearing 2012-13  
13 February 2013

---

**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

**TOPIC:** University Education Grant

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Edwards

**QUESTION No.:** AI-185

The following questions are asked in light of proposed developments to improve infrastructure and communications in regional areas.

1. Has development commenced at Mt Gambier's Uni SA TAFE campus?
2. When are the developments expected to be completed?
3. How many more new degrees will the developments support being taught at the regional campus?

**ANSWER**

1. The project has not commenced. In November 2012, the former Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research Senator the Hon Chris Evans, announced that the University of South Australia would receive \$18 million from the Regional Priorities Round of the Education Investment Fund for its project "Regional Connections – Centre for Regional Engagement". The project includes a new learning centre at the University's Mt Gambier campus and upgraded facilities at Whyalla.
2. The department is currently negotiating a Funding Agreement with the University of South Australia. As such, project timeframes are not yet finalised.
3. The project is expected to result in the following courses at the Mt Gambier campus:
  - a. 18 new bachelor level courses;
  - b. two new masters' level courses;
  - c. two new diploma level courses;
  - d. one new graduate diploma level course; and
  - e. one new graduate certificate level course.