

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
17 October 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY

TOPIC: Registered Training Providers

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Nash

QUESTION No.: SI-49

- a) What has been the average time taken from receipt of an application for registration of a Registered Training Organisation, and the registration?
- b) Since May 2012, how many new Registered Training Providers have been registered?
- c) How many individual courses have been registered by ASQA to date?
- d) How many applications for registration of courses have been received by ASQA?
- e) How many complaints has ASQA received to date regarding the registration process?
- f) What is the expected time frame in re-registering a business after a change of ownership?
- g) How many staff does ASQA currently have?
- h) Can we have a breakdown on the numbers based in each state or territory?

ANSWER

- a) For applications received in 2012 the average processing time has been:
 - Initial Application – 124 days
 - Renewal Application – 74 days
 - Change of Scope Application – 19 days
 - Withdrawal Application – 36 days.
- b) 64 organisations have achieved initial registration as a registered training organisation (RTO) since 1 May 2012.
- c) Since 1 July 2011 ASQA has approved the accreditation of 158 courses and listed them on the national register.
- d) ASQA has received 169 applications for courses to be accredited since it commenced operations on 1 July 2011.
- e) ASQA has received 27 complaints relating to registration processes or timeframes for initial registration as an RTO, re-registration as an RTO or change of scope applications since it commenced operations on 1 July 2011.
- f) The time taken for a business to achieve registration after the purchase of an existing training organisation (noting that registration as an RTO cannot be sold or transferred) depends on the preparedness of the new business to operate as a RTO. In cases where the new owner is well prepared registration could be achieved in less than 12 weeks. In cases where the new owner is ill prepared the application for registration will take longer to process, noting that the final outcome could be a refusal of registration.

g) As at 30 September 2012 ASQA had 172 staff.

h) Staffing per State / Territory and APS classification level at 30 September 2012:

| | SES | EL2 | EL1 | APS6 | APS5 | APS4 | APS3 | Total |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|-------|
| SA | | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 15 |
| QLD | | 3 | 15 | 17 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 48 |
| ACT | | 2 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 1 | | 14 |
| TAS | | 1 | | 1 | 2 | | | 4 |
| VIC | 2 | 6 | 15 | 10 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 44 |
| WA | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | | 4 |
| NSW | | 3 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 42 |
| NT | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Total | 2 | 18 | 48 | 49 | 32 | 11 | 12 | 172 |