

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 3
Output Group: 3.3 – Support for the Australian education and training export industry and international relationships.

DEST Question No. E761_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Frankarens Pty Ltd, trading as Sydney College of Technology

(a) What courses was Frankarens Pty Ltd (Sydney College of Technology) registered on CRICOS as able to provide?

(b) Was the Department aware that the College in fact advertised on international websites as offering courses in business?

(c) Does the Department monitor providers for discrepancies between their CRICOS registration and the courses they purport to offer to overseas students? How?

(d) What resources are devoted to this?

(e) How did DEST become aware that Frankarens was providing courses that went beyond its CRICOS registration?

(f) What systematic methods do you use to check on such practices?

Answer:

Cancellation and suspension of registrations

Frankarens Pty Ltd, trading as Sydney College of Technology

(a) The following courses were registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) for Frankarens Pty Ltd, trading as Sydney College of Technology (SCT):

- 039362G - Certificate III in Management (Base Skills)
- 039366D - Certificate IV in Management (Front-Line)
- 039370G - Diploma of Management (General Management)
- 039371G - Diploma of Marketing
- 039364F - Certificate IV in Information Technology (Multimedia)
- 039365E - Certificate IV in Information Technology (Network Management)
- 039368B - Diploma of Information Technology (Multimedia Integration)
- 039369A - Diploma of Information Technology (Network Engineering)
- 039372F - English for Academic Purposes 1 & 2
- 039373E - Foundations Studies in English (Elementary to Lower Intermediate) (10 - 20 Weeks)
- 039374D - Further Studies in English (Intermediate to Upper Intermediate) (10 - 20 Weeks)

- 039375C - General English (Elementary to Upper Intermediate)

(b) The Department held no evidence that SCT advertised on international websites as offering courses in business.

(c) Yes.

A significant element of the Department's strategy for managing providers' compliance with the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* (the Act) focuses on responding to any identified or perceived aspects of non-compliance with the Act or its National Code through compliance monitoring visits.

Information about the courses a provider is approved to deliver to overseas students is derived from CRICOS. As a fundamental part of pre-compliance visit activities, a comparison of courses registered on CRICOS with courses listed on a provider's internet site and/or any available promotional material is made. If discrepancies are identified, these are raised with the provider during the compliance visit.

(d) Discrepancies between registered course and marketing and related materials forms part of regular compliance and monitoring. Separate resources are not allocated to this activity

(e) On 20 May 2003 Departmental officers accompanied officers from the NSW Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board and officers from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs on an audit of SCT. The audit was conducted in accordance with the standards of the Australian Qualifications Training Framework for registered training organisations and the requirements of the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* (the Act) and the National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students.

During the audit, SCT's Application Forms were obtained. These forms invited overseas students and intending overseas students to undertake a Certificate IV in Business (Marketing) course number 039363G. According to the Department's Provider Registration and International Students Management System (PRISMS) the Certificate IV in Business (Marketing), course 039363G, was cancelled from the CRICOS on 8 April 2002.

(f) The response to (c) above refers.