

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2
Output Group: 2.2 – New Apprenticeships

DEST Question No. E762_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Pre-vocational places delivered through group training.

Please provide details of this initiative, announced during the election campaign.

Will the target of this program be school students? If so, how will this work? If not, who is the program aimed at and how will students be selected?

How has the Department discussed this program, and how will it work, with the states and territories?

Answer:

Pre-vocational places delivered through group training

This program is for those who wish to undertake a New Apprenticeship in the trades but they or the specific industry requires an element of pre-vocational training to take place prior to commencing in a New Apprenticeship. The pre-vocational training will provide basic preliminary training, on average up to six weeks (minimum 150 hours), in trade areas. The program is available to those whom pre-vocational training will make the difference between obtaining and not obtaining a New Apprenticeship. The program is not targeted at any specific age or target groups although priority will be given to those applicants who:

- are interested in gaining a New Apprenticeship in the trades;
- will benefit from the pre-vocational training; and
- are likely to have some success in attaining and completing a New Apprenticeship.

Contracted organisations will be responsible for selecting suitable eligible applicants and training will either be delivered directly through the contracted broker organisation or by organisations that are sub-contracted to deliver the training on their behalf.

This program was announced as part of the Australian Government's 2004 election commitments. No formal discussions have been held with State and Territory Governments to date.