

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2009-2010

Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy

DEEWR Question No.EW0927_10

Senator Fifield provided in writing.

Question

GOLDEN GURUS

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No EW587_10.

Please clarify the difference in advice in regards to member organisations receiving funding in the Parliamentary Secretary's media release of 1 February 2010 and an answer to a written QON and the reason for the change: "The program will not provide funding directly to individual organisations. The Golden Gurus Quality Standards have been developed so that they closely align with the service that many organisations already provide. Organisations that are accepted into the Golden Gurus community will be provided with 'in kind' support...". Answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates Written QON EW587_10

Answer

To be part of Golden Gurus, an organisation needs to demonstrate that they deliver a service that meets the standards set out in the Golden Gurus Quality Guidelines. Free training, promotional materials and access to an online networking forum are available to organisations that deliver Golden Gurus. As recently announced, Golden Gurus Member Organisations are also eligible to apply for grant funding to allow them to broker new mentoring roles (for example, mentoring apprentices and younger workers) and prepare Golden Gurus for those roles, including through training (for example, accredited training at the Certificate I-IV in mentoring, workplace training and assessing, or communication).

Senator Stephens' 1 February 2010 media release announced that these new funding grants will be made available through the Productive Ageing Package to allow up to 50 organisations delivering the program to pay for training to prepare Golden Gurus for voluntary mentoring roles with host employers/ training organisations, and to support the organisation with the delivery of their program.

The funding will be allocated through a competitive grants process. Criteria for the funding grants are being developed.