

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research & International**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0273\_14**

**Senator Carr provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Australian Maths and Science Partnerships Program**

1. What is the status of the Australian Maths and Science Partnerships Program competitive round?
2. How many projects has the Department recommended for funding?
3. How much in total is funding for this round?
4. When was the Minister advised of the Department's recommendations for successful projects?
5. When will stakeholders be notified of the outcome of their application?
6. Can you please provide a list of successful projects?
7. Has there been any reduction in funding for this program since its introduction?
8. Please provide for this program:
  - a. The 2012-13 updated budget outcome for this program
  - b. Updated forward estimates for 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2017-18 b)

What the breakdown of these estimates is between administered and Departmental costs?

**Answers**

1. Applications for the AMSPP Competitive Grants round closed on 23 July 2013. Proposals are currently under consideration through the usual process for assessing grant spending, including for consistency with government priorities and commitments.
2. No projects have been recommended to the Minister as yet.
3. \$16.4m is available across 2014-2016. Additional information is at Question 8.
4. No projects have been recommended to the Minister as yet.
5. Competitive grant round applicants will be advised of the outcomes of the round following the Minister's decision on successful proposals.
6. The process for finalising the AMSPP Competitive Grant round is not yet complete.
7. The AMSPP was subject to an efficiency dividend, announced in the 2013-14 Budget, resulting in the following reduction in funding:

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Total
<i>Pre-ED</i>	\$8,029,749	\$5,543,604	\$5,701,703	\$2,887,848	\$22,162,904
<i>Post-ED</i>	\$7,975,159	\$5,398,256	\$5,517,827	\$2,794,730	\$21,685,971
Difference	- \$ 54,590	- \$ 145,348	- \$ 183,877	- \$ 93,118	-\$ 476,933

8. Funding for the AMSPP was allocated by calendar year, to align with the university timetable, rather than by financial year. AMSPP funding ends on 30 December 2016, accounting for the reduced figure in the 2016-17 financial year.

Following the application of the efficiency dividend, the Administered budget for the AMSPP is:

Financial year:

2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Total
\$0*	\$7,975,159	\$5,398,256	\$5,517,827	\$2,794,730	\$21,658,971

\*2012-13 funding was re-phased to the 2013-14 financial year.

Calendar year:

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
\$0	\$5,300,000	\$5,350,318	\$5,446,194	\$5,589,459	\$21,658,971

The 2012-13 budget provided for the following Departmental resources:

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Total
EL1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.0
APS 6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.0
APS 5	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Departmental Resourcing (\$ millions)</b>	<b>0.167</b>	<b>0.168</b>	<b>0.170</b>	<b>0.171</b>	<b>0.676</b>