

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding to Schools

DEST Question No. E007_05

Senator Carr asked on 1 June, 2004, EWRE Hansard page 99.

Question:

I have raised the issue of Taylor's in Melbourne, which clearly does run a very large for profit operation—that is, running international students operated by the Study Group International—but it also receives Commonwealth money. You will tell me that this is, some how or another, some discrete entity I take it. Is that the case?

Answer:

Taylor's College, Melbourne

The Department currently recognises Taylors Institute of Advanced Studies Limited (TIASL) as the approved authority of Taylors College. TIASL is an Australian Public Company, limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

To be eligible for Australian Government recurrent funding it is a requirement under the *States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 2000* (the Act), that a company provide evidence of its incorporation, that it has the power to conduct a school and is not conducted for profit. The rules governing the incorporated body must also include provisions relating to it being wound up. TIASL has met these requirements.

In addition, TIASL must provide financial accountability each year, in the form of a certificate signed by an accountant, to the effect that funds have been spent, or committed, for the purposes for which they were provided. TIASL is also required to submit a Financial Questionnaire which specifies all gross income received by the authority in operating the school or schools and in providing activities for the students enrolled and all gross expenditure (whether of a recurrent or capital nature).

Based on the 2003 Census data, the school currently receives Australian Government General Recurrent Grant funding for 102.2 students. The school did not receive funding for an additional 729 Full Fee Paying Overseas Students (FFPOS) enrolled at the school.

Study Group Australia Pty Limited is an Australian Proprietary Company, limited by shares. A company search has revealed that several Directors are Directors of both companies and that both companies are affiliated to Taylors College.

Study Group Australia Pty Limited is however, primarily responsible for the FFPOS students that attend Taylors College and is therefore not entitled to Australian Government recurrent funding.