

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.1 – Funding for Vocational Education and Training

DEST Question No. E142_07

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

Each of the following expense areas are identified in the document “Agency Budget Statements – Outcomes – DEST” (p. 67)

- i. Skilling Australia’s Workforce Act 2005
- ii. Vocational and Technical Education - Priority Places
- iii. Vocational and Technical Education - National Programmes
- iv. National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd
- v. New Apprenticeship Centres
- vi. Support for New Apprenticeships
- vii. New Apprenticeship Workforce Skills Development
- viii. New Apprenticeship Access Programme
- ix. Workplace English Language Literacy
- x. Career Planning
- xi. Language, Literacy and Numeracy Training
- xii. Basic IT Enabling Skills for Older Workers
- xiii. Disability Coordination Officers
- xiv. Targeted Training Initiatives

For each of these, please provide:

- a) A list of activities funded under this heading
- b) Who receives the funding
- c) The actual and projected expenditure on these for the period to the end of the current forward estimates?

Answer:

VTE Programmes and Funding

Skilling Australia’s Workforce Act 2005

- a) This programme provides the Australian Government contribution to State and Territory training systems.
- b) Payments are made to State and Territory Governments on presentation of evidence of achievement of agreed milestones.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Vocational and Technical Education - Priority Places

- a) & b) Availability of training places through this programme ceased on 30 June 2005.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Vocational and Technical Education - National Programmes

- a) This programme supports priority tasks to strengthen the national training system.
- b) Payments are made to organisations contracted to undertake activity in support of the national training system.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd

- a) This programme provides the Australian Government funding contribution to the operation of the National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd (NCVER).
- b) Payments are made directly to the NCVER.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

New Apprenticeship Centres

- a) This programme provides funds to organisations to provide support services for Apprentices and Trainees and their employers.
- b) Payments are made directly to organisations delivering the services.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Support for New Apprenticeships

- a) This programme provides payment of incentives to employers and personal benefits to Apprentices and Trainees.
- b) Payments are made directly to eligible Apprentices and Trainees and employers.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

New Apprenticeship Workforce Skills Development

- a) This programme provides funding for a range of initiatives aimed at increasing the take up of Apprenticeships and Traineeships and addressing skills shortages. These initiatives include: Group Training Targeted Initiatives; Group Training in the Trades; the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence; Industry Training Strategies; Strategic Intervention (incorporating the National Skills Shortages Strategy); the COAG Skills Package; the Australian Surf Lifesaver Training Academy; and Tools for your Trade.
- b) Payments are made directly to those who are eligible to receive payments and include Apprentices, Trainees, employers, New Apprenticeship Centres, industry bodies, training providers, government agencies and community organisations.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

New Apprenticeship Access Programme

- a) This programme provides training assistance to job seekers who experience barriers to skilled employment to obtain and maintain an Apprenticeship or Traineeship.
- b) Payments are made to Broker organisations on presentation of evidence of achievement of milestones.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Workplace English Language and Literacy

- a) This programme provides workers with English language, literacy and numeracy skills.
- b) Payments are made to organisations on presentation of evidence of achievement of milestones.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Career Planning

- a) This programme provides career planning services for unemployed job seekers registered with Centrelink or Employment Service Providers.
- b) Payments are made to organisations contracted to provide the services.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Language, Literacy and Numeracy

- a) This programme provides English language and literacy and numeracy assistance to eligible job seekers whose skills are below the level considered necessary to secure sustainable employment or to pursue further education and training.
- b) Payments are made to contracted organisations on presentation of evidence of achievement of milestones.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Basic IT Enabling Skills for Older Workers

- a) & b) This programme ceased on 30 June 2006
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Disability Coordination Officers

- a) This programme provides funds to organisations to employ Disability Coordination Officers to work across vocational and technical education and higher education providers to better coordinate information and assistance to people with a disability to undertake post-school education and training.
- b) Payments are made to organisations which can provide this service.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.

Targeted Initiatives

- a) This programme supports skills development and training initiatives in the forest and forest products industry and the Australian School of Fine Furniture.
- b) Payments are made to organisations through a Funding Agreement.
- c) Estimates for 2006-2007 through to 2009-2010 are available in the 2006-07 Portfolio Budget Statements for the Department of Education, Science and Training, at page 116.