

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No.EW0012_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Fair Work Information Campaign- Restrictions On Info Providers

What restrictions are there on the extent to which the information providers can use the education sessions to promote the interests of their own organisation? For example, can an employer association say to attendees "if you want help in drafting a collective agreement – call us?" What are the terms of these restrictions?

Answer

As advised in answer to Supplementary Budget Estimates Question on Notice EW766_10.

Restrictions on delivering Fair Work Education and Information session is contained in the 'Guidelines for Applicants' issued in April 2009. Sections 4.6, 4.7 and 5.1.7 of the 'Guidelines for Applicants' state:

4.6 The information and education services provided by successful applicants must be delivered free of charge to both members and non members, and be consistent with content provided by DEEWR and all relevant provisions of the new workplace relations system and Australian Government policy.

4.7 Successful grant recipients are not excluded from delivering or presenting additional education and information services outside the scope of the program (such as providing information on superannuation entitlements in a seminar where services are also provided under the program). However, funding provided under the program must not be used for these additional services. The Australian Government or DEEWR must not be attached to or in any way linked to the delivery of any non-program services.

5.1.7 Exclusions

Applicants must confirm in writing their acceptance of the following conditions for participation in the program:

Applicants cannot:

- propose to charge employees, employers and/or small businesses for the education and information services provided under the program;*
- propose to require that employees, employers and/or small businesses become members of their organisation prior to receiving the information and education services;*
- propose to provide information and education services exclusively to their members at the exclusion of non-members; and/or*
- be bankrupt or otherwise subject to insolvency proceedings.*