

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

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

Outcome 3 - Higher Education

DEEWR Question No.EW0038_11

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

AVIATION WHITE PAPER & VET PROVIDERS

SwinburneUniversity's submission to the Aviation White Paper identifies barriers to pilot training and the need for greater consultation with high education and VET providers. Has consultation been entered into with pilot VET providers as there is little evidence in the ISC Environmental Scan – which reveals very little about the current demand for pilots in Australia? Can you provide more details information on the aviation sector? Including pilots? Can you advise how many providers have been accredited to deliver pilot training? How many of these are in partnership with Universities? Can you please detail who these are and the providers? Provide figures on the number of those looking for career pathways into becoming pilots have accessed VET FEE-HELP. Has this increased?

Answer

There has been no consultation with VET providers regarding pilot training by the Department to date.

Details on labour market statistics in the aviation sector are included in the response to DEEWR Question on Notice SQ10-001348.

Two registered training organisations approved as VET providers under Schedule 1A of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA) can offer students VET FEE-HELP assistance when they enrol in diploma level and above courses that have flight training included. The two providers are Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) and SwinburneUniversity, both are also Victorian universities.

As Victoria is a ReformState for the purposes of VET FEE-HELP and the two VET providers that offer courseswith flight training included are registered in Victoria, they are exempt from meeting the VET credit transfer requirements.

In 2010, indicative student data from VET providers show that 48 students are enrolled in aviation-related courses. 2010 is the first year that student data has been provided for students enrolled in these courses.