

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 1  
**Output Group:** 1.1 – Funding for schools

#### **DEST Question No. E413\_05**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

What administrative arrangements will be required to set up the Government's announcement for 24 Australian Technical Colleges? What is the establishment budget for each technical college? Please provide an indicative budget for a Greenfield college and an existing college.

How many staff will be employed at each technical college and on what salary range?

How many officers within DEST are working on the establishment of the technical colleges? What salary is each officer paid?

What was the selection criteria for determining the sites of the technical colleges?

What is the process for other regions to apply for a technical college?

What fees will students at the technical colleges have to pay?

How much will the fees be and will they need to be paid upfront?

#### **Answer:**

*Technical Colleges*

#### **Admin arrangements:**

The Government will legislate to provide funding for the Colleges. The funding will be administered by DEST.

#### **Budget and indicative budget for a Greenfield site:**

See answer to question 325.

#### **Staff employed at each college/salary range:**

The number of staff employed at each College will depend upon the partnering arrangements put in place. The salary range of staff employed at a College will be determined by the governing body of each College.

#### **DEST staffing:**

DEST has established an Australian Technical Colleges Branch in Schools Group to manage the implementation of the Colleges. When fully established, it is expected that approximately 18 staff will be working in the Branch. The average annual salary will be approximately \$70,000 for 2004-05. In addition, the skills of specialist staff from across the Department will be utilised to assist with the implementation as required.

**Selection criteria for sites:**

The locations for the Colleges were selected by the Government on the basis of regional skill shortages, high rates of youth unemployment, and a significant or rapidly growing industry base.

**Other regions:**

The Australian Government has nominated the 24 regions in which Australian Technical Colleges will be located. The tenders submitted will need to reflect this decision in order to be considered for funding.

**Fees:**

As noted in the response to question 331, no additional fees over and above existing fees will be able to be charged. The timing of the payment of fees and charges, where they apply, will be a matter for College governing authorities.