

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.2 Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E472_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question:

Where are the revised guidelines for the former ATAS and ASSPA programs, in their new incarnation? When will they be available? Please provide them.

Please provide page references to the report of the review of the IEDA program that recommend or advise that the changes actually made by the Government to these programs should be effected.

If there are no recommendations or there is no advice with respect to a particular change, please indicate how the report's findings support the change.

Answer:

IEDA Program and Review

The programme guidelines for the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS) and the Parent School Partnerships Initiative (PSPI) are available from the Department's website at www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/iet_2005_2008.htm in the document *Indigenous Education Programmes Provider Guidelines 2005-2008*. A copy is attached.

The Terms of Reference of the IEDA Review required that the Review 'identify ways of improving the appropriateness and effectiveness of the IEDA programs' and 'ascertain timelines and strategies for the implementation of any changes to the IEDA program in 2004' (p 1, *Review of the Indigenous Education Direct Assistance Program – Final Report*, available at www.dest.gov.au/schools/indigenous/publications). The Review concluded (p xi) that 'on balance, both these components [the ASSPA and the Vocational and Educational Guidance for Aboriginals Scheme (VEGAS)] of IEDA should be reformed to achieve greater impact on students' learning outcomes.'

The recommendations from the review are at pages 62 – 64 of the *Review of the Indigenous Education Direct Assistance Programme – Final Report*.