

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E581_06

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

- a. Of the successful proposals for Australian Technical Colleges announced earlier this year, how many will now start in 2006, and which ones are they if any? Will any actually start at the commencement of the 2006 school year?
- b. How many of these are existing schools or have existing schools in their consortia?
- c. How many students will they take?
- d. What system is in place to ensure that these students are genuinely **additional** to the numbers rather than existing students currently enrolled in State/Territory VET systems?
- e. Have any that you know of advertised for enrolments? If so, which ones?

Answer:

Australian Technical Colleges commencing in 2006

- a. Australian Technical Colleges that are proposing to open in 2006 are:
Eastern Melbourne – start of school year
Gladstone – start of school year
Port Macquarie – start of school year
Northern Tasmania – start mid year 2006
Gold Coast – start of school year
- b. The Australian Technical College Port Macquarie will involve St Joseph's Vocational College, an existing school. Negotiations on business plans are continuing with the other Colleges scheduled to start in 2006. The detail of arrangements has not yet been confirmed.
- c. The Australian Technical College Port Macquarie is expecting to enrol 260 students, some of whom are existing students of St Joseph's. Negotiations on business plans are continuing with the other Colleges scheduled to start in 2006. The number of students to be enrolled in 2006 has not yet been confirmed.
- d. The Australian Technical Colleges are additional to current numbers in VTE as there are few School-Based New Apprenticeships in these areas currently.
- e. The Australian Technical College Port Macquarie has held information nights in Taree and Port Macquarie for parents and students. The Australian Technical College Gladstone has approached secondary schools and industry representatives in the region to provide information on the alternative pathway to the trades that the initiative will offer. The Australian Technical College Eastern Melbourne has advertised for student enrolments. The Australian Technical College Gold Coast has promoted its operations in its partner schools in the Gold Coast region. It is currently seeking expressions of interest from students in those schools for enrolments in 2006.