

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.1 – Funding for Vocational Education and Training

DEST Question No. E668_06 – Final

Senator Nettle provided in writing.

Question:

1) In reference to Questions on Notice asked by Senator Allison (No 365) regarding counselling services provided by the Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services (AFPSS) it is noted that “The AFPSS must gain and maintain accreditation as an Australian National Training Authority recognised Registered Training Organisation for training health educators, health professionals and other workers, and accrediting trained counsellors in affiliated agencies.”

- a) If the AFPSS is in the process of applying for accreditation as an Australian National Training Authority recognised Registered Training Organisation, what is the name of the Registered Training Organisation (RTO)?
- b) How much federal funding would the RTO associated with AFPSS receive if their application is approved?
- c) What states and territories is AFPSS seeking to run training in through their RTO?
- d) How many students does any RTO course run by AFPSS intend to have?
- e) What are any anticipated average student contact hours per course run by a AFPSS RTO?
- f) Are there any requirements for the qualifications of teachers in such an RTO? If so what are they? What are the qualifications of those who are being proposed as teaching any AFPSS associated RTO?
- g) What are the names and qualifications of the individuals who have developed the course curriculum for any RTO application from AFPSS?
- h) Please provide any other information available on any AFPSS Registered Training Organisation such as RTO delivery or assessment status, registration conditions or registration restrictions.
- i) Please provide a copy of the proposed curriculum for any RTO run by AFPSS.

Answer:

Registered Training Organisations

a) Registration of a training organisation as a Registered Training Organisation occurs under the Australian Quality Training Framework and is a responsibility of each State/Territory Training Authority. Registration status is provided on the basis of continued compliance with Australian Quality Training Framework *Standards for Registered Training Organisations*.

Registered Training Organisations are listed on a national register, the National Training Information Service, which can be accessed at <http://www.ntis.gov.au>. A check of National Training Information Service website has found that neither the Federation nor any of its members currently appear as a Registered Training Organisation.

The Federation has advised DEST that:

- the Federation is still to apply for registration;
- the Federation's current intention is to provide training against national Training Package qualification/s (e.g. Certificate IV in Training and Assessment); and
- under its current funding agreement the Federation is to achieve registration status by 30 June 2007.

b) A Registered Training Organisation does not automatically attract public funding. A Registered Training Organisation delivering nationally recognised vocational and technical education may be publicly funded (e.g. to deliver formal training for apprenticeships and traineeships through a User Choice contract). User Choice and other vocationally related competitive funding arrangements are a responsibility of each State and Territory. To ascertain further information it will be necessary to seek this information from each State and Territory.

c) AFPSS is not currently seeking registration as a Registered Training Organisation.

d) This information is not available at this time.

e) This information is not available.

f) Standard 7 of the Australian Quality Training Framework *Standards for Registered Training Organisations* prescribes the minimum competency requirements for trainers and assessors delivering nationally recognised vocational and technical education qualifications.

An extract of the Standards for Registered Training Organisations is at **Attachment 1**.

No information is currently available on AFPSS proposed teachers (trainers).

g) As AFPSS has not yet registered, there is no definite indication of the Training Packages to be delivered. There is no national record maintained of the names and qualifications of individuals who have been involved in the development of a Training Package or an accredited course.

h) There are currently no registered AFPSS Registered Training Organisations.

i) This information is not available.

Extract from:
 Australian Quality Training Framework
Standards for Registered Training Organisations

7. The competence of RTO staff

Each member of the RTO's staff who is involved in training, assessment or client service is competent for the functions they perform.

- 7.1 The RTO must develop and implement written procedures for the recruitment, induction and ongoing development of each member of its staff who is involved in training, assessment or client service; encourage and provide relevant opportunities for their professional development; and monitor their performance.
- 7.2 The RTO's induction program and materials for new staff must contain information, where relevant to their job role, on each of the following:
- i Training Packages
 - ii competency-based training and assessment
 - iii VET requirements and policies
 - iv requirements for apprenticeships/traineeships
 - v staff responsibilities for access and equity.
- 7.3 **a** The RTO must ensure assessments are conducted by a person who has:
- i the following competencies³ from the Training and Assessment Training Package or is able to demonstrate equivalent competencies:
 - a TAAASS401A Plan and organise assessment
 - b TAAASS402A Assess competence
 - c TAAASS404A Participate in assessment validation
 - ii relevant vocational competencies, at least to the level being assessed.
- b** However, if a person does not have the assessment competencies as defined in standard 7.3 a i and the vocational competencies as defined in standard 7.3 a ii, one person with all the assessment competencies listed in standard 7.3 a i and one or more persons who have the vocational competencies listed in standard 7.3 a ii may work together to conduct the assessments.
- 7.4 The RTO must ensure that training is delivered by a person who:
- i holds the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment⁴ from the Training and Assessment Training Package or is able to demonstrate equivalent competencies or
 - ii is under the direct supervision⁵ of a person who has the competencies specified in standard 7.4 i and
 - iii is able to demonstrate vocational competencies, at least to the level of those being delivered.

³ A person who holds the competencies BSZ401A Plan assessment, BSZ402A Conduct assessment, and BSZ403A Review assessment from the Training Package for Assessment and Workplace Training will be accepted for the purposes of this standard. A person who has demonstrated equivalent competencies to BSZ401A and BSZ402A and BSZ403A in the period up to 12 months following publication of the Training and Assessment Training Package will also be accepted for the purposes of this standard.

⁴ A person who holds the Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training from the Training Package for Assessment and Workplace Training (BSZ98) will be accepted for the purposes of this standard. A person who has demonstrated equivalent competencies to the Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training in the period up to 12 months following publication of the Training and Assessment Training Package will also be accepted for the purposes of this standard.

⁵ Direct supervision is achieved when a person delivering training on behalf of the RTO has regular guidance, support and direction from a person designated by the RTO who has the competencies in standard 7.4 i and who monitors and is accountable for the training delivery. It is not necessary for the supervising person to be present during all training delivery.