

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.3 – Assistance for skills and career development

DEST Question No. E599_07

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

Question:

- a. Was funding prior to 2006 on a quadrennial basis for all of them?
- b. Is it now on an annual basis and if so why this change, especially considering factors such as Tranby College offering 2 year courses?
- c. If an institute is offering 2 year courses is there any reason that they cannot be given at least 2 years funding to enable them to surety of course completion?

Answer:

- a. Transitional funding arrangements and the Joint Indigenous Funding Pool (JIFP) were not available prior to 2006.

Funding for Indigenous Education Programme elements continues to be provided under Indigenous Education Agreements for each of the four independent Indigenous vocational and technical education (IIVTE) providers. These agreements provide funding for the four years of the 2005–2008 quadrennium.

- b. Transitional funding arrangements are guaranteed over four years, subject to compliance with contractual conditions, and are released by DEST to the four IIVTE providers on a quarterly basis.

Indigenous Education Programme funding is contracted under a four year agreement with annual entitlements determined and paid in accordance with the relevant programme guidelines.

- c. State and Territory JIFP arrangements vary. However, where possible, the States and Territories are to put in place arrangements which will provide funding certainty and stability for the period 2006-2008 subject to achieving satisfactory progress in meeting agreed milestones and outcomes.

Funding of 2 year courses under the JIFP would depend on the administrative arrangements each State and Territory puts in place for administering this project.