

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

**Outcome:** 2.4

**Output Group:** Funding for Higher Education

#### **DEST Question No. E651\_07**

Senator Crossin provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

With reference to the IHEAC policy paper Improving Indigenous Outcomes and Enhancing Indigenous Culture and Knowledge in Australian Higher Education and the \$1.73 million funding announced by the Minister for Education in a press release of 18 July. This included \$750,000 for partnership projects to encourage universities to increase the number of cross sectoral partnerships and pathways for Indigenous students. Ten partnerships were proposed. Are any yet determined or underway as yet?

#### **Answer:**

##### *Indigenous Higher Education Pathways projects*

Expressions of Interest (EOI) were called in late October 2006 for projects which will build partnerships between Australian universities, schools, TAFE colleges, other registered training organisations, and community organisations to build pathways for Indigenous secondary students, with the aim of raising the level of Indigenous undergraduate enrolments in higher education.

Organisations that put in an EOI were invited in late November 2006 to apply for funding. The closing date for receipt of applications is 29 January 2007.

The Department anticipates that contracts will be finalised by the end of February 2007. Funding will be provided for two years.

Further information and Funding Applications are available on [www.dest.gov.au](http://www.dest.gov.au) under the Indigenous Education link.