

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-13

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Education Expenses

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 71

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Tuesday, 2 April 2013

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a. What is the departments/agency's guidelines on study?
- b. For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio agency department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

Answer:

- a. The ANAO's Studies Assistance Policy was reviewed and updated in April 2012. A copy of the revised policy was provided in July 2012 and is attached here for your reference.

- b. For the financial year to date:

Type of Courses/Study – General (soft skills); Technical; Leadership and Personal Development; Project Management; IT; Professional Associations (ICAA/CPA) and Tertiary Studies.

Total Spend - \$321,692

Cost per participant - \$1,080

Employment Classifications – APS 1 to SES Band 3.

No. of participants - 298

Study leave granted – an average of 26.9 hours per participant

Reason/benefits of study – The ANAO provides a blended solution of technical and general training to its staff annually. Professional qualifications and tertiary education are also encouraged and supported. The objective of the program is to continuously develop individual skill levels, assist with the attraction and retention of quality staff, enhance the quality of our audit products and to strengthen and sustain our in-house capability. The curriculum is developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders and staff.