

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-21 October 2010

Question: PM134

Topic: International Student Strategy

Asked By: Senator Cash

Type of Question: Written

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How will the International Student Strategy be implemented and what are the outcome measure and guidelines for the COAG process? How is it going to work? Will it cover tertiary education or vocational based education or both?

Answer:

Responsibility for overseeing and implementing the COAG International Students Strategy for Australia now rests with the Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment (MCTEE). Australian Education International (AEI) within the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations will lead oversight and monitoring of all Commonwealth Government delivery of the strategy.

States and Territories will be responsible for supervising and monitoring implementation of the strategy in their jurisdiction.

COAG will be able to keep track of the Strategy's progress via the annual reporting mechanism through MCTEE and through International Students Surveys which will be undertaken as part of the Strategy.

A detailed implementation schedule is contained in the Strategy document, which is available on the COAG website at www.coag.gov.au.

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The Strategy commits all governments to implement 12 initiatives in four action areas – student wellbeing, quality of education, consumer protection and better information.

These actions will help to ensure that international students:

- are able to make informed choices about studying and living in Australia;
- have a positive study and life experience in Australia; and
- acquire skills that equip them for a successful future.

The Strategy covers all international education sectors, including higher education and vocational education and training.