QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(39) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash (L&CA 46) asked:

Provide the top 10 occupations skills categories and the time frames taken to provide the assessments.

Answer:

Skills assessing authorities determine the length of time needed to assess the skills of applicants. For General Skilled Migration applications, the times taken to assess the skills of the top 10 occupations granted in the program year to end February 2011 (as indicated on assessing authority websites) are tabulated below:

	Occupation	Assessing authority	Indicative processing time
1	Accountant (General)	Chartered Practicing Accountants Australia (CPA)	Ten working days.
1	Accountant (General)	Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA)	One to four weeks with fast track service available.
1	Accountant (General)	National Institute of Accountants (NIA)	Four to six weeks.
2	Software and Applications Programmer (NEC)	Australian Computer Society (ACS)	Twelve weeks.
3	Registered Nurse (NEC)	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC)	Six to eight weeks.
4	Motor Mechanic (general)	Trades Recognition Australia (TRA)	The majority of applications are assessed within 30 working days.
5	Cook	Trades Recognition Australia (TRA)	The majority of applications are assessed within 30 working days.
6	Electronics Engineer	Engineers Australia	Sixteen weeks from the date of receipt. Accredited Australian and Accord qualifications – currently about 3-4 weeks.
7	Mechanical Engineer	Engineers Australia	As above.
8	Civil Engineer	Engineers Australia	As above.
9	General Medical Practitioner	Medical Board of Australia	Six to eight weeks. Assessment Process for Area of Need Specialists within approximately five working days.
10	Electrician (general)	Trades Recognition Australia (TRA)	The majority of applications are assessed within 30 working days.