

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0724) Program 5.1: AMEP / Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees

Senator Cash (written) asked:

What are their course completion rates?

Answer:

Participation in the AMEP is voluntary. All eligible AMEP clients may access up to 510 hours of English courses, for five years from the visa commencement date.

The AMEP uses the Certificate in Spoken and Written English (CSWE), a competency based national curriculum and assessment framework, which is accredited within the Australian Quality Framework (AQF).

Although education levels and other factors, such as pre-migration experiences may affect an individual's ability to make English language gains, clients exiting the AMEP demonstrated progress from the time of entry into the program.

In 2009-10, 23.1 per cent of clients who exited the AMEP attained certification at CSWE Certificate Level 3, while 21.4 per cent reached CSWE Certificate Level 2. A further 41.2 per cent attained CSWE Level 1 and the remaining 14.3 per cent were awarded statements of attainment. Relevant data for the 2010-11 year is not finalised.