

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. CA0002_14

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

RJCP - Remote Youth Leadership Development Corps

Can the department provide an update on progress on the rollout of the Remote Youth Leadership Development Corps program?

When will places under the program be made available?

How will the approximately 12,000 places available under the program be divided between the 59 RJCP regions?

How much funding will be allocated to each of the 12,000 Youth Corps places?

What is the benefit of the Youth Corps program to participants, over and above other employment services that will be available through the RJCP in their communities?

The Fact Sheet on the Youth Corps program available on the DEEWR website says “the Australian Government will also work with state and territory governments to identify and source opportunities for young people graduating from Youth Corps.” What does this mean in practice, and how will it differ from what Commonwealth and state and territory governments will already be doing to create employment opportunities under the RJCP program?

Answer

The Remote Youth Leadership Development Corps (Youth Corps) commenced on 1 July 2013 as part of the Remote Jobs and Communities Program (RJCP). RJCP providers have been provided with guidelines and face-to-face training to assist in their preparation for delivering Youth Corps.

In 2013–14 there are 1000 Youth Corps places available to providers. Seventy per cent of these places were made available on 1 July 2013 and the remainder will be released after November 2013.

The allocation of Youth Corps places in 2013–14 is based on each region’s share of the number of registered job seekers aged 15–24 years.

Funding of \$7700 (GST incl.) is available for each Youth Corps place. Youth Corps participants also attract Participation Account credits.

Youth Corps will promote cultural change over time by engaging young people in a program of active participation.

DEEWR will build upon existing inter-governmental relationships and networks to liaise with state and territory counterparts to promote the employment opportunities presented by Youth Corps 'graduates' and improve Youth Corps program linkages between Commonwealth and state and territory programs and services.