

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Skills and Training**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000331**

Senator Cameron, Doug provided in writing.

***VET student loan scheme - collapsed providers***

**Question**

Since the introduction of the VET Student Loans Scheme: How many other providers have collapsed? How many students and staff are impacted? Jobs lost? Do you know if staff are getting their entitlements? How many students have had their debt remitted? How many have requested it? Are there any that can't get it remitted because a provider has collapsed? How many have been placed with other providers under one of the Tuition Assurance Schemes?

**Answer**

The VET Student Loans program commenced on 1 January 2017:

- As at 29 March 2017, eight VET FEE-HELP approved providers have closed.
- The Department of Education and Training estimates that up to 12,413 students have potentially been affected.
- All providers must have tuition assurance arrangements in place to be eligible to offer VET FEE-HELP loans or VET Student Loans. All providers who have closed had tuition assurance. The tuition assurance scheme operators are currently working with students who have been affected. This process takes time as it involves contacting students and having them indicate their preferences. Tuition assurance arrangements protect students in the event of a provider ceasing to offer a course.