

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Skills and Training

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000798

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

VET Student Loans - inclusion of courses

Question

How will a provider apply for inclusion of a course onto the eligible course list? What will be the criteria? Who will review the application? Who will make a decision on a providers application?

Answer

For a course to be eligible for VET Student Loans, it must have a high national priority, meet industry needs, contribute to addressing skills shortages and align with strong employment outcomes.

The Department of Education and Training will undertake a comprehensive review of the approved course list and the loan caps starting February 2017. This review will include consultation with a range of stakeholders including state and territory governments, employers, providers and students. The approved course list will be then reviewed twice yearly, each year from 2018.

The Government will also consider requests by Listed and Not-for-Profit providers to include additional courses in the Courses and Caps Determination that are not currently on the published eligible course list. In considering these requests, the Government will require evidence from the provider of employment outcomes for that course, employer support for that course, and their track record of student progression and completion through that course.