

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2007-2008 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome

DEST Question No. E089_08

Senator Carr asked on 31 May 2007, EWRE Hansard page 45.

Question:

Senator CARR—How many tutors are current or former teachers?

Mr McDonald—I would have to take that on notice. I would imagine that of those a substantial proportion would be either current teachers or previous teachers.

Answer:

Reading Assistance Voucher Programme

All tutors under the Reading Assistance Voucher (RAV) programme must be suitably qualified, skilled and experienced.

Qualifications for RAV tutors are equivalent to those that the state or territory government recognises when employing teachers. Tutors must demonstrate, through their experience and background, the capacity to establish a positive relationship with the student and the parent/caregiver, understand the educational needs of the student, and use appropriate strategies to help the student in their literacy development.

The RAV Guidelines regarding tutorial expertise specify that in some circumstances, such as in rural and remote locations, other qualified specialist service providers, teachers' aides or persons with extensive teaching experience may be suitable.

As at 5 July 2007, there are 3,946 tutors authorised to deliver tuition under the RAV programme. Of these, 3,348 have formal teaching qualifications equivalent to those required by state/territory education authorities in employing teachers. The remaining 598 meet the guidelines for tutorial expertise.