

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011–2012**

Outcome 2 – Schools

DEEWR Question No. EW0488_12

Senator Boyce asked on 2/06/2011, Hansard page 87.

Question

List of Nationally Agreed Tests Carried Out In Australia

Senator BOYCE: I am just wondering if it might be better to perhaps ask these questions on notice, Chair, if you could give me the list of all the tests that are used for any cohort of Australian school students, obviously with your approval. If some private school somewhere is doing something, a one-off, you will not know about that, and the intellectual property rights owners of those tests. And if the entity that has the Australian licence for those tests is different, could you give me that entity as well? Dr Bruniges: We will try and take that on notice. The international tests would be conducted in a number of countries, not only Australia, so OECD would be the owner, but I am happy to follow up and provide a list and the information required. Senator BOYCE: In which case perhaps someone here has the right to provide that test in Australia. Dr Bruniges: I will need to follow up on that one— Senator BOYCE: That body might be ACER or ACARA, but that is what I want to know. Dr Bruniges: Okay. Senator BOYCE: And where possible the value thereof. Dr Bruniges: Can I just clarify the last question, Senator. So give you a list of the nationally agreed tests that are carried out in Australia. Senator BOYCE: Yes. Dr Bruniges: Yes, and which entity owns the test or put together the test. Senator BOYCE: Yes. Dr Bruniges: And then the third one? Senator BOYCE: The entity that has the Australian rights if it is a different group. Dr Bruniges: Yes, if it is a different group. Senator BOYCE: And what the value of those tests in the Australian market is, if possible. Dr Bruniges: If possible. Senator BOYCE: I appreciate that you may not be able to find that figure. Dr Bruniges: No, we are happy to take that on notice and see what we can find. Senator BOYCE: And perhaps just point of time type stuff. I do not know what will be convenient, the last financial year or whatever. Ms Collins: But Senator Boyce, you are interested only in those tests that have some departmental involvement. Is that correct? Senator BOYCE: Not departmental involvement, but federally—I am not sure what the word is—sanctioned tests. Ms Collins: By the government? Senator BOYCE: Tests where ACER or ACARA or the department itself would say: 'This is a test that can be used for Australian schoolchildren.' Ms Collins: But you are not interested, for example, in the testing conducted by the University of New South Wales across some schools? This is what I am trying to flesh out. Senator BOYCE: Yes.

Answer

Student assessments authorised and operated federally are those included in the National Assessment Program.

The National Assessment Program is an ongoing program of assessments endorsed by the Standing Council for School Education and Early Childhood (formerly the Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs). The table below lists each assessment in the program and for each shows where the intellectual property rights are held, and who is licensed to deliver the assessments in Australia (where applicable).

Assessment	Owner of Intellectual Property of the Test	Licensed to deliver assessment in Australia
National Assessment Program –Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)	Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)	Not applicable
Science Literacy	ACARA	Not applicable
ICT Literacy	ACARA	Not applicable
Civics and Citizenship	ACARA	Not applicable
Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)	Organisation for Economic Co-ordination and Development (OECD)	Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER)
Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)	International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA)	ACER
Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS)	IEA	ACER

The intellectual property for individual test items may rest with a third party. It is ACARA's responsibility to ensure that they have the necessary licences to use the material in the assessments they manage.

The assessments included in the National Assessment Program have no commercial value. They are funded and delivered at government expense, with school level participation costs met by each education authority.

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