

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 2 - Schools

DEEWR Question No. EW0523_11

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

TRADE TRAINING CENTRES - CADETSHIPS

What work has been done to institute Trades Training Cadetships? What does the department estimate the cost of the program will be? Given the governments previous statements about expenditure requiring offsets, what programs will be cut to fund the program? How do trade Training Cadetships differ from school based Apprenticeships? Will school based apprenticeships continue to be offered?

Answer

While development of the National Trade Cadetships initiative is in its early stages, this initiative will require the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to undertake significant consultation with Industry Skills Councils and with states and territories.

The announcement stated that Australian Government funding of \$3.1 million would be available over 2010-11 and 2011-12 to develop the two streams of the cadetships - the foundation stream and the pre-apprenticeship stream. A further \$12.5 million would be available in each of 2012-13 and 2013-14 to provide the work experience element of the cadetships.

There was no requirement for expenditure offset within the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Australian School-based Apprenticeships (ASBAs) are a mix of academic, vocational and technical education and training and paid employment. They enable students to start a full apprenticeship while still working towards completing their Year 12 Certificate.

Trade cadetships differ from ASBAs by focusing on foundation skills such as literacy, numeracy and teamwork and on pre-vocational training to articulate into a full apprenticeship and involve work experience rather than paid employment.

Australian School-based Apprenticeships will continue to be available along with the proposed trade cadetships.