

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of the Senate

Budget Estimates

26-30 May 2014

Question: 83
Topic: Graduate program
Written: 12 June 2014

Senator WONG asked:

1. How many applicants applied for the agency's 2014 graduate program?
2. How many were accepted?
3. What is the anticipated intake of graduates for the beginning of the 2015 year?
4. Is this a reduction from the previous year?
5. If so, what are the reasons for the decrease in the graduate intake?
6. Have any Government decisions affected the level of graduate intake in the agency?

Answer:

The department participates in the Parliament of Australia Graduate Program, run in conjunction with the Department of the House of Representatives and the Parliamentary Budget Office. This program offers short-term placements in the participating parliamentary departments to existing Australian Public Service employees. The department reimburses the participant's home department/agency for the associated salary costs at the conclusion of the placement.

There were 114 applications received for the 2014 program. Two applicants were offered short-term placements in the department. It is expected that two placements will be offered again in 2015.

The program is designed to give participants exposure to the parliamentary departments' work in supporting the Parliament. Participants generally work in the Committee Office.