

Question on notice no. 120

Portfolio question number: BE18/133

2018-19 Budget estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Home Affairs Portfolio

Senator Louise Pratt: asked the Department of Home Affairs on 22 May 2018—

Mr Mansfield: At this stage of the year we will assess all of the Community Support Program applications that come in, noting that some of them may not be grant ready before 30 June.

Senator PRATT: I understand the cost of the program varies depending on which APO the sponsor applies through. Is that correct?

Mr Mansfield: The approved proposing organisations are able to charge for their services. The information is required to be transparently placed on their website so that potential applicants can choose which approved proposing organisation they wish to apply through.

Senator PRATT: Are you able to provide a breakdown of those costs? If they're on individual websites, do you have an overview of that information in one place?

Mr Mansfield: I'll have to take that on notice; I'm not aware.

Senator PRATT: If you're able, I'd be interested in a breakdown of costs by organisation. Can I ask what oversight you give to those costs as I understand they do vary. What's the rationale in the variation?

Answer —

The prices that Approved Proposing Organisations (APOs) charge vary depending on the individual APO business model and the range of services they offer. The table below provides the fees charged and a summary of services provided as advised by the APOs.

It is a mandatory requirement that each APO notify the Department of Home Affairs (the Department) of any change to their pricing structure prior to any change taking effect. APOs must also ensure that the pricing offered is fair, reasonable and consistent with the intentions of Australia's humanitarian program.

The Department encourages all prospective applicants and their Australian supporters to consider all APOs to find one that is best suited to their circumstances.

Approved Proposing Organisation (APO)	Website	Total fees to
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AMES Australia	https://www.ames.net.au/csp/victoria	\$12,740 plus bond
Assyrian Australian Association	http://www.assyrianaustralian.org.au/	\$10,700
Australian Migrant Resource Centre (AMRC)	https://amrc.org.au/community-support-program	\$11,750 plus bond
Australian Refugee Association (ARA)	http://www.australianrefugee.org/services/community-support-program-csp/	\$7,775 plus
Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL)	https://www.bsl.org.au/services/refugees-immigration-multiculturalism/community-support-program/	\$12,770 plus bond
Diversitat	https://diversitat.org.au/services/settlement-services/case-support-program/	\$12,770 plus bond
Eastern Christian Welfare Australia (ECWA)	https://www.ecw.org.au/	\$12,500
Illawarra Multicultural Services (IMS)	http://www.ims.org.au/	\$11,250 plus bond
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	http://australia.iom.int/	\$10,200 for 1 applicant and each additional applicant.
Multicultural Development Australia (MDA)	http://www.mdaldt.org.au/	Total computer dependant on number of applicants in application: \$3,000 case \$3,000 per p
Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre	https://spectrumvic.org.au/service/community-support-program/	maximum of

**Note these prices do not include visa application charges, medicals, airfares, exit permit fees or other otherwise stated.*