

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross

**Question No:** 270

**Topic:** Traineeship Program for People with Intellectual Disability

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Fifield** asked:

With reference to FaHCSIA's "Traineeship Program for People with Intellectual Disability" pilot can the Department provide the following information:

- a) What was the total cost of the Traineeship program to the Government?
- b) What was the total expenditure per trainee for the program?
- c) What is the current status of the trainees that went through the program?
- d) What plans, if any, are in place to expand or continue the program?

**Answer:**

- a) The total cost of the Traineeship program to the Government, for the period July 2009 to June 2011 was \$316,062.30 (GST exclusive)
- b) The total cost of expenditure per trainee was \$ 63,212.46
- c) The five trainees successfully completed the Certificate II in Business Administration and completed the Traineeship Program.

The five trainees were placed in ongoing positions at the APS1 level classification.

On 24 March 2011, one of the graduated trainees resigned from the Department to pursue other employment opportunities.

On 20 April 2011, one of the graduated trainees took 12 months leave without pay for personal reasons.

- d) FaHCSIA is currently in the planning stage for the next traineeship program. FaHCSIA expects to commence the recruitment process in early 2012, and the trainees are expected to commence in the first half of 2012.

FaHCSIA will employ four trainees with intellectual disability through the next traineeship program.

To ensure enduring employment outcomes for each intake of trainees, FaHCSIA's approach is to recruit trainees with intellectual disability every two years, rather than annually.