

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

29 May – 31 May 2012

Question: BET 1075-1076

Topic: Education Expenses (ASIC)

Hansard Page: Written (Received from Committee - 13 June 2012)

Senator BUSHBY asked:

1075. What are the department/agency's guidelines on study? Please provide details.

1076. For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.

Answer:

1075. Under Clause 28 – ASIC Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014, ASIC encourages staff to undertake formal study. Assistance is available for courses of study at tertiary and higher education institutions, and other vocational education courses, where the study is agreed as part of the staff member's development plan.

Staff may also apply for up to 5 hours per week leave for study purposes outside the Study Assistance Scheme. Such applications are considered under the Other Leave provisions.

Financial assistance is offered under the scheme of up to \$5K per financial year noting that financial assistance for tuition fees is not available for Commonwealth supported students.

Ongoing, non-ongoing staff and graduates are eligible for the study scheme, providing they are directly relevant to the operational needs of the workplace.

Approval is at management discretion, and conditions apply in all cases. A proposed scheme of study must:

- Be of value and relevance to the Commissions strategic objectives and/or the Public Service as a whole;
- Have benefit and relevance to ASIC and APS wide skill needs, individual's work area, career path, and work performance.

1076. For the 2011-12 financial year to date \$1,058,525.56 has been spent. Year to date there has been a total of 5831 places that have been attended at an average cost per participant of \$181.50. For a breakdown of course type and participant numbers refer to the table below:

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L&D Education Expenses 2011-12 YTD (1 July 2011 - 31 May 2012)	
Tertiary Courses	No of Participants
Core: Business	549
Core: Self & Interpersonal	2083
Core: Technical	494
Accounting	21
Investigator	262
Continuing Professional Development Seminars	933
Legal/Lawyer	1489
GRAND TOTAL	5831

In total there were 79 Programs, 350 Sessions an average 4.4 sessions per program.

Study leave is not applicable for in-house programs. ASIC's records do not provide for the breakdown by classification for the above education expenses.

For the 2011-12 financial year to date ASIC has provided study reimbursement for 188 staff at a cost of \$510,265, which is an average cost of \$2,714 per student. A total of 161 staff have accessed study leave with 872.8 study leave days taken during this period, at an average of 5.4 days per person.

Tertiary Education Expenses 2011-12 YTD	
Tertiary Courses	No of Participants
Accounting & Finance	51
Arts	2
Business	47
Information Technology	4
Law	84
GRAND TOTAL	188

Tertiary Education Expenses 2011-12 YTD

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Classification Level	No of Participants
ASIC2	5
ASIC3	45
ASIC4	53
Executive Level 1	44
Executive Level 2	38
SES	3
GRAND TOTAL	188