Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

4 - 6 June 2013

Question: BET 537-538

Topic: Education Expenses

Written: 17 June 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

- 537. What are the department/agency's guidelines on study?
- 538. 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.

^{*}Financial year to date – 31 May 2013

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Answer:

- 537. There is no change to the agency's guidelines on study since the 2012-13 Budget Estimates.
 - Study assistance may be available for pre-tertiary, tertiary, and post-tertiary approved courses that are directly relevant to the employee's role and ASIC's strategic priorities. Up to \$5000 per financial year may be reimbursed for tuition fees and compulsory costs and up to 5 hours per week study leave to attend tutorials, lectures, intensives, and private study where appropriate.
- 538. For the 2012-13 financial year to date (31 May 2013) \$700,068 was spent on in house courses. A number of new courses were developed and focus was given to provide courses for our Accounting/Auditor Professional Network. A program on Stakeholder Engagement for a number of business units was also developed and delivered. Year to date there has been a total of 4790 places that have been attended at an average cost of \$81.81 per participant. For a breakdown of course type and participant numbers refer to the table below.

L&D Education Expenses 2012-13 YTD (1 July 2012 – 31 May 2013)		
Course Type	No of Participants	
Core: Business	1813	
Core: Self & Interpersonal	1115	
Core: Technical	41	
Investigator	193	
Accounting	153	
Continuing Professional Development Seminars	613	
Legal/Law	862	
GRAND TOTAL	4790	

In total there were 109 programs, 341 sessions and an average of 3.1 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 2012-13 financial year to date ASIC has 170 approved students and reimbursed \$278,088. This is an average cost of \$1636 per student. (Total estimated financial liability for this financial year to date is \$529,892, which is an average cost of \$3117 per student.)

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Tertiary Education Expenses 2012-13 YTD		
Tertiary Courses	No of Participants	
Accounting & Finance	37	
Business & Commerce	25	
Government	5	
Information Technology	13	
Arts	3	
Law	87	
GRAND TOTAL	170	

Tertiary Education Expenses 2012-13 YTD		
Classification Level	No of Participants	
ASIC2	3	
ASIC3	32	
ASIC4	56	
Executive Level 1	43	
Executive Level 2	35	
SES	1	

A total of 270 study leave days have been taken during this period, at an average of 1.7 days per student.

Classification Level	Study Leave Taken (Days)	Number of Students
ASIC 2	6.1	3
ASIC 3	74.5	32
ASIC 4	90.3	55
Executive Level 1	55.1	38
Executive Level 2	39.1	29
SES	5	1
TOTAL	270.10	158