

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Industry Portfolio  
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15  
23 October 2013

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)

**TOPIC:** Inquiry into the Community Training College

**REFERENCE:** Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 October 2014, pages 71-72)

**QUESTION No.:** SI-35

**Senator KETTER:** I was going to continue with my line of inquiry in terms of the community training college. I was interested in the number of trainees that were affected by that fraudulent activity which took place over what would appear to be some years. Do you have any information about that?

**Mr Robinson:** I do not have any further details about their operation at the moment. I can come back on notice about that matter. Basically speaking, we regulate prospectively, not retrospectively. Once we have discovered a problem we take action and we seek to ensure that non-compliant providers cannot continue unless they become compliant, but in this case there was criminal action and it ended up with a prosecution in the courts as well...

**Senator KETTER:** There was found to be fraudulent certificates and the person who was accused had used identities of three people that had been presented as trainers without their knowledge or consent. My concern is for the students, the trainees, so I am wondering whether ASQA has some sort of duty of care to those trainees.

**Mr Robinson:** As I said, we regulate prospectively. When we discover a process that requires us to take action, we take it. In this case there was also action taken through the criminal code in relation to those matters. We have no role or power to deal with the past in relation to that process.

**Senator KETTER:** Can you enlighten me as to what the impact will be on those trainees? What is the effect on them if they have been found to be trained by people that do not have the appropriate qualifications?

**Mr Robinson:** The people who had been through this college earlier had received qualifications that were legitimate at the time they received them. Not everyone who has been through that college was the subject of the particular issues that were found in this case.

**Senator KETTER:** In terms of that prosecution you say there is the potential there for the licence to be revoked and apart from that you have no further interest in that particular case?

**Mr Robinson:** We have no power to take any other action.

**Senator KETTER:** You mentioned that Victoria seemed to feature heavily in the compliance activity of ASQA. Do you have any figures in terms of the Queensland situation?

**CHAIR:** And the rest of Australia as well?

**Mr Robinson:** Yes. I will get some state figures for you on notice. There is quite a lot of detail but I can give you the figures for each state as well as the national figures. We can come back with those in relation to the proportion of existing RTOs that we have taken action against and also the new ones that were applying and what happened to those.

**ANSWER**

A State / Territory breakdown of ASQA's regulatory activity for the period 1 July 2011 – 31 August 2014 is provided below.

**Applications Received; 1 July 2011 - 31 August 2014**

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	No State	Grand Total
Initial Registration	21	395	10	243	35	16	170	42	2	934
Renewal of Registration	102	732	38	512	179	46	402	177	1	2,189
Change of Registration	620	5,228	355	4,323	950	515	5,326	1,266	9	18,592
Withdrawal of Registration	17	150	16	177	51	19	72	22		524
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>6,505</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>5,255</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>5,970</b>	<b>1,507</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22,239</b>

**Applications Completed by Decision / Type: 1 July 2011 - 31 August 2014**

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	No State	Grand Total
<b>Approved</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>5,768</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>4,838</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>5,448</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20,265</b>
Initial Registration	12	220	5	180	19	10	103	33	1	583
Renewal of Registration	90	548	32	401	147	30	298	146	1	1,693
Change of Registration	605	4,855	354	4,089	903	493	4,983	1,203	8	17,493
Withdrawal of Registration	17	145	15	168	50	17	64	20		496
<b>Rejected</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>22</b>		<b>652</b>
Initial Registration	1	79	2	17	7	4	26	2		138
Renewal of Registration	-	56	1	16	1	2	49	4		129
Change of Registration	12	178	-	43	14	2	120	16		385
<b>Withdrawn</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>56</b>		<b>774</b>
Initial Registration	6	55	3	23	9	3	20	5		124
Renewal of Registration	6	34	1	35	14	2	20	11		123
Change of Registration	4	152	1	110	20	19	159	38		503
Withdrawal of Registration		3	1	8	1	2	7	2		24
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>6,325</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>5,090</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>5,849</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21,691</b>

**Rejections as a % of Applications Completed: 1 July 2011 - 31 August 2014**

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	National
Initial Registration	5.3%	22.3%	20.0%	7.7%	20.0%	23.5%	17.4%	5.0%	16.3%
Renewal of Registration	0.0%	8.8%	2.9%	3.5%	0.6%	5.9%	13.4%	2.5%	6.6%
Change of Registration	1.9%	3.4%	0.0%	1.0%	1.5%	0.4%	2.3%	1.3%	2.1%

**Regulatory Decisions: 1 July 2011 - 31 August 2014**

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	National
Decision to Cancel	1	20	0	19	3	2	21	5	71
Decision to Suspend	7	36	3	18	7	2	12	5	90
Written notices of intention to Cancel / Suspend	8	118	2	100	20	4	80	9	341
Other Administrative Sanctions	5	15	0	11	3	0	26	6	66
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>568</b>
Decisions as a % of RTOs in State / Territory	17.4%	16.6%	10.4%	10.4%	13.0%	9.5%	21.1%	13.0%	14.5%