

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Agency: ARC

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000195

Senator McKenzie, Bridget provided in writing

ARC: Future Fellows

Question

- Has the Government met the funding cliff left by the previous Government for the Future Fellows programme?
- Has the round opened?
- How important is this programme for Australia's mid-career researchers?

Answer

The Australian Research Council (ARC) has provided the following response.

- Yes. The Australian Research Act 2001 provides funding for the National Competitive Grants Programme, which includes the Future Fellowships scheme. The ARC Act was amended in 2015 to include ongoing funding for the Future Fellowships scheme.
- No.
- The *Future Fellowships* scheme promotes research in areas of critical national importance by giving outstanding mid-career researchers incentives to conduct their research in Australia.

The scheme boosts Australia's research workforce by providing additional opportunities in Australia to support the best and brightest mid-career researchers.