

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Agency: ACARA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000457

Senator Ludwig, Joe provided in writing

ACARA: Government payments of accounts

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?
2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?
6. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Estimates, 2014?
7. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response.

- 1 – 5. ACARA does not track timeliness of payments as it is a corporate Commonwealth entity under the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act (2013), is not required to track this information, and does not record it. Obtaining this information would necessitate an unreasonable diversion of resources.
6. From 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016, ACARA paid late charges of \$447.42.
7. These are fees determined by Cab charge.