

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Agency: ARC

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000224

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

ARC - Engagement narrative statement

Question

In reference to the engagement narrative statement, what information will you be asking to be included in this statement? How many statements will be required from each institution? Will there be limits on the length or information provided?

Answer

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

The Engagement and Impact assessment process is voluntary and universities can choose which units of assessment they wish to submit. A unit of assessment is defined as the broad field of research within the university.

As part of their submission, universities have been asked to provide one engagement narrative for each unit of assessment they submit.

Universities have been provided with guidance on completing the engagement narrative, such as including descriptions of:

- how the unit of assessment engaged with parties, outside of academia, during the reference period for the mutual benefit of the institution researchers and research end-users
- the duration and extent of the engagement activities and
- how the engagement indicators reflect this activity.

The engagement narrative itself is limited to 500 words but universities are also able to submit additional quantitative information in their narrative template in addition to the word limit.

The engagement narrative is only one element of the suite of engagement indicators, and will be used alongside the quantitative engagement indicators (see response to SQ17-000218 for details)