

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority (ACARA)**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0309\_15**

**Senator O'Neill asked on 4 June 2014 , Hansard page 77**

**Question**

**ACARA staffing**

Senator O'NEILL: Thank you very much. Ms Paul and Mr Cook, I should have asked the same question of ACARA. Could you provide me with those details for ACARA?

Mr Cook: I am sorry, Senator, I do not have staffing details with me. Ms Paul: We can take them on notice. Senator O'NEILL: Staffing details.

**Answer**

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority has provided the following response:

There will be changes in ACARA's staffing profile in financial year 2014/15 compared with financial year 2013/14.

These changes will be a result of:

- a) \$4.1 million reduction from \$29 million in 2013/14 to \$24.9 million in 2014/15 in ACARA's funding from the Commonwealth, states and territories. This change is part of ACARA's quadrennial funding arrangement, agreed by education ministers in October 2011. The changes result, in part, from completion in the current year of Foundation to Year 10 curriculum and the move to monitoring in 2014/15.
- b) reduction in project funding (National Assessment and Surveys Online Project [NASOP] and National Trade Cadetships [NTC]) from the Australian Government as these projects are completed or are in their final stages.

It is anticipated that 8 to 11 staff involved in core funded activities in 2013/14 will not be retained by ACARA in 2014/15 (some staff whose fixed term contracts are coming to an end, and some redundancies) and up to 12 staff who were involved in Australian Government funded projects with fixed term contracts whose engagement by ACARA will come to an end in early 2014/15.

Final arrangements are subject to further discussion with staff and determination about how some elements of ACARA's work will be conducted in 2014/15 e.g. contracted out or in-house activity.