

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000451

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

Office of Learning and Teaching

Question

In reference to the decision to outsource the Office of Learning and Teaching:

- (a) You say it will be established “in universities” in the plural. What model will it follow?
- (b) How will the universities to run this institute be selected? Will there be a tender process?
- (c) Will you only consider tenders from consortia of universities? Or could a single-university model be considered?
- (d) Can – or must – the tenders include entities other than universities in the consortia?
- (e) Could you limit the tenders that you will consider to those that include a private provider? Is that a condition for the tender?
- (f) What will be the timeline for this process?

Answer

- (a) The institute may be established by a university or by consortia of universities and other higher education providers and institutions. The model will be developed in consultation with the higher education sector.
- (b) Universities will be invited to bid for the new institute.
- (c) The Government is open to receiving proposals from both individual institutions and consortia of institutions.
- (d) Institutions other than universities may be included.
- (e) There is no intention to limit proposals to bids that include a private provider.
- (f) A consultation process is underway with written submissions due by 13 July 2015. This will be followed by roundtable discussions, led by Professor Ross Milbourne AO, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Technology Sydney, between 21 and 30 July 2015. A request for proposal will then be issued, with proposals due by the end of 2015 and the process finalised in early 2016.