

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

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

**Outcome: Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000510**

Senator O'Neill, Deborah provided in writing

***P-TECH pilot***

**Question**

In relation to the PTECH pilot, including the allocation of \$0.5 million over two years from 2015-16:

1. Where is this initiative up to?
2. How many schools will participate?
3. What schools will be involved, and how were they selected?
4. How has this funding been spent to date?
5. How will the pilot be assessed? Does the \$500,000 commitment include the cost of reviewing the pilot?

**Answer**

The Australian Government has identified the Geelong region, an area of high youth unemployment, as its preferred location for the pilot, and with IBM's support, the Government is likely to be able to expand the pilot to a second site in Ballarat. The Government is liaising with the Victorian Government to formalise its agreement to the pilot arrangements. Once the Victorian Government confirms suitable pilot schools, the Department of Education and Training will commence work with key stakeholders to implement a pilot that is appropriate for the Australian context i.e. fully compliant with curriculum and teaching requirements. It is anticipated there will be two pilot sites based at existing schools.

To date no funding has been expended. The pilot funding includes an evaluation component.