

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Agency: ACARA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000594

Senator Ludwig, Joe provided in writing

ACARA: Non-Australian Citizens Employed by the Agency

Question

1. What is the Department/Agency's policy with regard to hiring non-Australian citizens?
2. Does the agency have a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) policy? If yes, please provide a summary.
3. How does the Department/Agency determine whether a person is a non-Australian citizen?
4. How many staff who were not Australian Citizens have been hired by the Department/Agency since the Federal Election in September, 2013? Please break the numbers down by:
 - a) Levels at which they are employed
 - b) Immigration Status (Visa)
 - c) Cultural Background
 - d) Linguistic Background
 - e) How many were hired to satisfy CALD targets?

Answer

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

1. ACARA Recruitment & Selection policy covers hiring non-Australian citizens.
2. ACARA does not have a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) policy.
3. ACARA verifies details of non-Australian citizens through phone screening and pre-contract confirmations, e.g. working visa requirements. Applicants for positions must be legally entitled to work in Australia. An applicant holding a valid work permit can only be employed for the duration of that work permit. Applicants without the relevant visa will not proceed further in the process. Entitlement to work in Australia is confirmed prior to an interview being scheduled and prior to employment commencing.
4. Given the relatively small size of ACARA and the capacity to readily identify individuals, this information would include personal information and is therefore not provided. No staff were hired to satisfy CALD targets.