

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

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

Outcome: Agency: ASQA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000599

Senator Ludwig, Joe provided in writing.

ASQA: 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 Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) has provided the following response.

1. ASQA's current policy is to hire Australian citizens only.
2. ASQA does not have a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) policy.
3. When applying for a position with ASQA applicants are required to complete an application form which asks if they are an Australian citizen.

The pre-employment application form also asks applicants to make a declaration that the information they have provided is true and correct and that they understand that any false statements may disqualify them from employment with ASQA or result in termination of their employment with ASQA.

4. No staff who were not Australian citizens have been hired by ASQA since the Federal Election in September 2013.