

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018**

**Outcome: Skills and Training**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000936**

Senator Cameron, Doug provided in writing

***VSL - Tuition Assurance Schemes***

**Question**

- Are the Tuition Assurance Schemes sustainable?
- Are any other new schemes under consideration for registration?
- Has the Minister been briefed about any issues with the sustainability of the Tuition Assurance Schemes? If so, when?

**Answer**

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring students are protected and supported through tuition assurance arrangements. Under the VET Student Loans program, tuition assurance arrangements have been further strengthened to support students to finish their qualification, and impose more stringent requirements on both providers and tuition assurance scheme operators (operators).

The two currently approved operators, the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) and TAFE Directors Australia (TDA) have been granted provisional approval as operators under the VET Student Loans program.

The department regularly briefs Ministers on programs under the portfolio, including tuition assurance.