

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 – 2018

Outcome: Skills and Training

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000974

Senator Cameron, Doug provided in writing

Careers Australia – public funding

Question

1. How much public funding did Careers Australia receive in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 - broken down by year? For each of these years, how much of this funding was through the VET FEE-HELP scheme?
2. How much other Commonwealth funding was provided and what were the programs that funding was provided under?
3. How much state funding was provided and what were the programs that funding was provided under?

Answer

1. The Department of Education and Training can only report on funds administered by this department. Payments under FEE-HELP, VET FEE-HELP and VET Student Loans are set out below.

Year	FEE-HELP	VET FEE-HELP	VET Student Loans (commenced 01/01/2017)
2014	\$0	\$139,054,349	\$0
2015	\$136,900	\$258,473,611	\$0
2016	\$64,350	\$187,981,588	\$0
2017	\$2,633,928	\$12,592,041	\$1,189,131

The Australian School of Management (ASM) was approved as a higher education provider under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* in May 2012. ASM's ownership arrangements have changed several times since approval, and it was acquired by Careers Australia Group Limited (CAG) in March 2015.

2. The department manages two industry co-contribution vocational education and training programs where Careers Australia is listed as the participating registered training organisation (RTO), however, payments for training are not paid directly to the RTO by the Commonwealth. Careers Australia was first approved as a VET FEE-HELP provider in 2011 and has received \$88.1m in VET FEE-HELP funding between 2011 and 2013.

Industry Skills Fund (ISF)

ISF funding is provided to employers to assist with the costs of training. RTOs and other training providers are not eligible to receive direct funding from the ISF. Careers Australia has delivered some training courses for employers funded through the ISF, with a value of up to \$545 in 2016-17.

National Workforce Development Fund (NWDF)

NWDF funding was provided to Industry Skills Councils who then made payments to lead organisations or RTOs. The department has not directly funded Careers Australia under NWDF. It is estimated Careers Australia received up to \$251,413 from ISCs through the NWDF in 2011- 13.

3. The department does not collect information on state based funding amounts.