

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome: Skills and Training

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000796

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

VET Student Loans - state and territory skills list

Question

What will be the threshold for a normal course (not STEM) to be included on the eligible qualification list? Will it be automatic once it is included on two state and territory skills lists, or must it be an deliberative decision of the Minister once the course meets this qualifying standard?

Is it possible that a course might be included on two state and territory skills lists yet not be placed on the eligible qualification list?

Answer

- The legislation will allow the Minister to amend the VET Student Loans eligible course list at any time. This includes adding or removing eligible courses.
- The use of at least two state and territory skills lists and inclusion of STEM courses allowed for the establishment of an initial VET Student Loans eligible course list.
- The Department of Education and Training will undertake a comprehensive review of the approved course list and the loan caps starting February 2017. This review will include consultation with a range of stakeholders including state and territory governments, employers, providers and students. The approved course list will be then reviewed twice yearly, each year from 2018.