

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome 1 - Employment

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-001042

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Question

Youth Jobs PaTH - intern safe guards

- Are there any specific rules or program regulations on how many times an employer may host an intern through the PaTH program in a 12 month period?
- What specific safeguards are there to prevent employers churning through interns? When will these be released and how will compliance be monitored?

Answer

A job seeker will only be able to undertake a PaTH internship with an individual host organisation once. In exceptional circumstances, there will be consideration to permit a job seeker to undertake a second placement with a host organisation. For example, where a job seeker is unable to complete an internship because of illness.

The department will issue program guidelines to employment service providers to make clear the parameters of the program. Providers will manage internship placements within these guidelines to ensure potential host organisations use the program appropriately. The department will also review appropriate use of internships by host organisations where data indicates a pattern of internships not successfully translating into employment

The department will undertake a range of further consultation over the coming months. Final guidelines are expected to be released in February / March 2017 prior to the commencement of the program.