

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates Hearing 25-29 May 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: Outcome 2: Indigenous
Topic: School attendance

Senator: Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

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Type of question: Written

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

How many school attendance officers are undertaking or have completed accredited units that count towards a formal qualification?

- a. Which organisations are accredited to deliver these units?
- b. What units are available to participants?
- c. How are these funded?

Answer:

As of 22 June 2015, 146 Remote School Attendance Strategy (RSAS) workers have formally registered to undertake accredited training through the *RSAS Training Strategy project* which is being delivered by the National Employment Services Association (NESA). Of these 146 RSAS workers 90 are undertaking a Certificate II and 56 are undertaking Certificate IV.

Some RSAS providers have also supported their RSAS workers to undertake accredited training units through Registered Training Organisations. RSAS providers are not required to report on the number of workers undertaking accredited training.

- a. NESA has sub-contracted *Betterlink Group* (a Registered Training Organisation) to provide accredited training to those RSAS workers wishing to undertake this additional training. *Betterlink Group* will develop the accredited training content, provide support and coaching for learners undertaking the accredited component, conduct assessments and sign-off of the Statement of Attainments.

- b. Two clustered sets of units have been selected to meet the differing needs between the School Attendance Officers (SAOs) and the School Attendance Officers (SAs). Each of the chosen units relate to a wide range of qualifications, many of which are relevant to the community sector:

Cert II Community Services Skill Set – For SAOs:

CHCCS211B - Prepare for work in the community sector

CHCORG202C - Work with others

CHCORG201C - Follow policies, procedures and programmes of the organisation

(Please note that these nominated units are core units from the Certificate II in Community Services.)

Cert IV RSAS Management Skill Set – For SAs:

BSBWOR402A - Promote team effectiveness

CHCCS400C - Work within legal and ethical frameworks

CHCCS407C - Operate referral procedures

- c. NESAs have been funded by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to deliver the RSAS Training Strategy.