

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 3

Output Group: 3.3 – Support for the Australian education and training export industry and international relationships.

DEST Question No. E274_06

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Refers to DIMIA Question No 73 (May 2004)

Question:

DIMIA has provided me with an answer about student visa cancellations with respect to student visa cancellations as a percentage of total international student enrolments.

Has DEST undertaken an analysis of any discernible trends and patterns in visa cancellations associated with individual providers? Does DEST regularly receive information, similar to that provided in the list provided to me by DIMIA, from the Immigration Department itself?

Do you discuss these figures and trends with DIMIA, in order to maximise your collective understanding of any problems?

Answer:

Student visa cancellations

- DEST has undertaken some analysis of visa cancellation data. However, the data currently available through DIMIA does not contain the level of detail which would allow meaningful analysis of trends and patterns. The information regarding cancellations for individual providers that was previously supplied by DIMIA to Senator Carr included cancellations for breach of visa condition, as well as cancellations for administrative reasons such as withdrawing from courses and finishing courses early. As the data was not broken down into visa cancellation categories, DIMIA have advised that conclusions drawn from this data may not be indicative of true trends or patterns and it may be unfair to individual providers to draw conclusions from them.
- DEST receives information from DIMIA similar to that provided to Senator Carr.
- As part of a whole of government approach to compliance within the international education industry, DEST and DIMIA share information such as that provided to the Senator. DEST holds regular meetings with DIMIA where information is shared on providers of interest and ESOS non-compliance more generally.