

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency **4**

DEEWR Question No. EW0171_10

Senator Cash asked on 17 June 2009, EEWHR Hansard page 19.

Question

Jobs and Training Aspects of the Jobs Fund

Senator CASH—In terms of the program you are referring to, how much is based on training and how much is based on real employment participation, and fundamentally getting them into the workforce and getting them a job?

Ms Paul—We can pull out the figures for you—

Senator CASH—That would be great if you could.

Ms Paul—but there is a considerable commitment of funding on both counts. So in terms of the training, literacy and apprenticeship support and the Bradley support, it is many, many hundreds of millions of dollars. And we can enumerate that. The higher education reforms come to over \$5 billion and, of course, most of that goes to young people. Other than the \$4.9 billion through Job Services Australia, which goes to our young people as much as to any other jobseeker, the \$650 million Jobs Fund will also be relevant, as I have just said.

Answer

The aim of the Jobs Fund is to create jobs, build skills and produce long-term improvements in communities affected by the global economic recession. The Jobs Fund projects focus on directly building job opportunities for people in communities where unemployment is already high, where unemployment rates are rising or that are particularly vulnerable. The main focus of the Jobs Fund is to create job opportunities, and as a result projects may also contribute to building skills and training for people. As indicated in the Jobs Fund Guidelines, preferences will be provided to projects that meet a number of target areas, including those that provide jobs seekers with additional skills through training which maintains a connection with the labour market or develops connections to the community, assists apprentices/trainees who have been made redundant to complete their apprenticeships or provide opportunities for youth.

The Jobs Fund Guidelines and Proposal for Funding Form are available at:
www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/Pages/JobsFund.aspx.