

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education**

**DEEWR Question: No.EW0070\_11**

**Senator Hanson-Young provided in writing.**

**Question**

**ADULT LITERACY, LANGUAGE AND NUMERACY PROGRAMS**

- A. What qualifications standards does the Commonwealth expect of teachers delivering adult literacy, language and numeracy programs?
- B. Is the Government aware of the qualification standards that the profession expects of such teachers, and is there a difference?
- C. How does the Government ensure that the voice of the profession is heard in determining qualifications required of the profession?

**Answer**

A. The qualifications required of adult language, literacy and numeracy (LLN) practitioners employed in Australian Government funded programs vary. A summary of these requirements is at [Attachment A](#).

B. There are currently no formal, nationally agreed professional standards for adult LLN practitioners. Similarly there is no single body that speaks on behalf of the entire LLN teaching profession and expectations vary depending upon the priorities of different stakeholder groups.

C. The Australian Government consults widely with a range of stakeholders representing the LLN profession before implementing any new initiative. The Government requires Industry Skills Councils to conduct a broad scoping and consultation process for any qualifications developed under national training packages.

**Commonwealth funded Language, Literacy and Numeracy programs – Required practitioner qualifications**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Qualifications required</b>
Language, Literacy and Numeracy Programme (LLNP) (Administered by Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations [DEEWR])	Provides free accredited LLN training for eligible job seekers whose LLN skills are below the level considered necessary to secure sustainable employment or pursue further education and training.	Teachers must have, as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an undergraduate degree of at least three years duration;</li> <li>• a recognised specialist Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) qualification or specialist adult literacy qualification; and</li> <li>• at least 100 hours teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) or Adult Literacy/ Numeracy in the last three years.</li> </ul>
Workplace English Language and Literacy (WELL) Program (Administered by DEEWR)	Assists organisations to train workers in LLN skills so they can meet their current and future employment and training needs.	WELL trainers require a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and ‘appropriate qualifications to deliver LLN training to adult learners’. Generally, they also need an understanding of the workplace within which they are working - its culture, structures and systems - and an ability to negotiate within this to the benefit of employer and employee.
Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) (Administered by Department of Immigration and Citizenship)	Provides English lessons to eligible adult migrants.	Teachers are required to hold qualifications as specified in the licence conditions of the Certificates in Spoken and Written English (CSWE). As a minimum, these are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a recognised Bachelor Degree and a recognised postgraduate TESOL qualification which includes a practicum; OR a Bachelor of Education with a TESOL major or equivalent which includes a practicum; and</li> <li>• a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment or equivalent.</li> </ul>