

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(202) Output 2.1: Settlement Services

Senator Hurley asked:

What is the role of volunteers and do they receive compensation of any sort from their service. If yes how much is allocated to voluntary teachers of English migrants and what is the requirement to qualify for the job.

Answer:

The AMEP Home Tutor Scheme (HTS) uses volunteers to provide language assistance, usually on a one-to-one basis in the client's home, for those eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants who cannot attend AMEP classes. Volunteer tutors may also assist clients in the classroom or in small tutorial sessions associated with classroom tuition.

HTS volunteers are not required to hold any formal qualifications and do not receive any compensation for their services. The AMEP service providers are required to provide volunteers with:

- a minimum of 15 hours initial training;
- guidelines on topics to be covered and approaches to be used with clients; and
- ongoing training and support.