



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025**

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE  
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by: Mr James Milligan MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Skills and Training

Redirected to: NA

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript pages 57 - 58

In relation to: CIT funding Commonwealth and ACT

Hearing Date: 26 July 2024

QTON lodgement date: 29 July 2024

Answer Due Date: 1 August 2024

**MR MILLIGAN:** Yes. Thank you, Chair. As I understand, there are a couple of pools of funding that go to our registered training officers for CIT or independent. I just want a breakdown; it was not necessarily that clear in the Budget outlook papers; how much of the Commonwealth government grants go to CIT and how much of ACT Budget goes to CIT to provide courses and supports?

**Mr Steel:** We can perhaps take that on notice and provide you with some information, but we have been clear as a government that we want to see more than 75 per cent of our budget spent investing in the public TAFE provider to continue to deliver services and indeed expand them in areas, and we have been looking at opportunities to support them to deliver training in new areas as well. That has of course, I think, most recently been supported through the new Centre of Excellence for electric vehicles; the first Centre of Excellence in Australia, which will be delivered by CIT. That is also through a direct government program delivered under the National Skills Agreement with the federal government, focussed on TAFE as the centre of the training system.

It will allow CIT to not just deliver training themselves within the Centre of Excellence but also to disseminate information to other registered training organisations about how to deliver that sort of training as well. It is not something that just will benefit CIT; it will benefit the whole VET sector when delivering those sorts of qualification, but CIT will be a leader. So that is the kind of role that I think CIT plays; it is often a leader, the TAFEs generally across the country are leaders in delivering vocational education and training and can support the broader sector to meet the skills needs of the economy.

I do not know if you want to talk a little bit about—well, I will of course provide the figures though on notice.

**Chris Steel MLA:** The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

Due to the nature of the national funding agreements for skills and training, funding from the ACT Government and the Australian Government is pooled to jointly provide funding to support the training system and deliver national and local priorities. As a result, it is not possible to specifically identify which proportion of the annual allocation to the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) came from commonwealth or ACT funding sources.

In 2024-25, CIT will receive a total appropriation of \$87.3231 million (Source: ACT Budget Papers).

In addition, CIT will have access to funding through the following programs:

User Choice and Skilled Capital

- The total budget for the User Choice program in 2024-25 is \$17.945 million. User Choice is demand driven, and the proportion of funding paid to CIT for subsidies will be dependent on which learners select CIT as their training provider. Based on historical data, CIT typically receives around 40 to 50 per cent of the User Choice budget.
- The total budget for the Skilled Capital program in 2024-25 is around \$3.5 million. An Expression of Interest process is currently underway for Skilled Capital. The proportion of funding that goes to CIT will be dependent on the outcome of that process. In the 2023-24 release of Skilled Capital, CIT received just over 10 per cent of the total funding allocation.

Fee Free TAFE

- Fee Free TAFE Tranche 1 - CIT received \$16.4 million of matched funding.
- Fee Free TAFE Tranche 2 - CIT will receive \$7.36 million on meeting agreed milestones.

National Skills Agreement - Special Policy Initiatives

- Under the National Skills Agreement (NSA) there are seven Special Policy Initiatives. To date the ACT has only agreed an Implementation Plan with the Commonwealth for an Electric Vehicle Centre of Excellence, which will result in \$19.32 million of matched funding going to CIT over the term of the NSA.
- CIT received an additional \$3.2 million through the Fee Free TAFE- TAFE Tech Fund and \$4.78million through the Turbocharging Centres of Excellence under the Employment White paper to go towards the Centre of Excellence over the term of the NSA.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature: 

Date: 2/8/24

By the Minister for Skills and Training, Chris Steel MLA