



Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

Asked by Mr Jeremy Hanson CSC MLA on 13 November 2023: Mr Moysey took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard proof transcript 13 November 2023 [PAGE 24]

In relation to: Early Education staff training scholarships.

Ms Efthymiades: We have an existing scholarship program. Government has had that for a number of years now, and it is 12 scholarships per year to a maximum value of \$25,000. We have had four people get all the way through that and graduate in situ. We have 39 in process, and each year there are another 12 that become available, et cetera. Within the \$25,000, there is a \$4,000 allowance to backfill the individual while they are on their practicum area.

MR HANSON: And what is the demand for that scholarship?

Ms Efthymiades: Relative to the 12 each year?

Mr Moysey: It is healthy—

MR HANSON: I imagine that you would get a lot of people wanting that, wouldn't you?

Mr Moysey: Yes, we offer 16 a year and two sessions—one in the first half of the year and a second half of the year offer. People are very interested in it, and—

MR HANSON: And that is six in each, is it?

Mr Moysey: Sorry, there are eight.

MR HANSON: Eight.

Mr Moysey: There are 16 a year and we split it into eight and eight.

MR HANSON: Right.

Mr Moysey: Most people who are taking it up are electing to do their qualification part time, so that gets you to eight years. The other thing is that we have seen a big shift in Commonwealth support for vocational and tertiary, which we are compiling into something almost like a menu, if you like. We are trying to build that compilation to enable providers and services to make those choices, and for staff to make those choices, that best fit their needs. I know states and territories are very happy about the—

MR HANSON: How do you select someone for a scholarship? Who makes that decision about who gets a scholarship or not?

Mr Moysey: We put out the applications and then we have a process to work through against the criteria for the scholarships—

MR HANSON: Yes.

MR HANSON: How many people apply? Do you know?

Mr Moysey: I would have to take that on notice for each cycle of application—

MR HANSON: Yes, could you for each cycle.

Mr Moysey: Yes.

Ms Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Two scholarship rounds were held during the reporting period. The first round in October 2022 resulted in 11 applications. The second round held in May 2023 attracted 18 applications.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:



Date: 27/11/23

By the Minister for Early Childhood Development, Ms Yvette Berry MLA.