

Strategic Plan 2009-2011

Department of Education Services



Vision

To be recognised as Australia's leader in the provision of services to education and training sectors.

Mission

Proactively support the development of Western Australia's education and training systems for the benefit of students and the State through provision of relevant regulation, funding and policy advisory services.



Supporting quality and choice in education and training

Across Western Australia there are close to 600,000 students receiving education and training from more than 1,500 providers at hundreds of locations spread throughout the State. They are involved in:

- school education;
- vocational education and training;
- higher education; and
- international education.

The Department of Education Services plays a crucial role in strengthening and safeguarding the quality of education and training in Western Australia by providing effective and efficient regulation services. These services cover over 500 organisations providing education and training to approximately 270,000 students in WA.

The Department also provides over \$300 million in financial support to non-government schools in Western Australia supporting diversity and choice.



Strategic Goals

Regulation

Enhance public confidence in the quality and integrity of education and training through effective and efficient regulation.

Funding

Improve access to a world-class education system by allocating grants and subsidies to non-government schools, supporting diversity and parental choice.

Strategic Policy and Legislative Services

Position the education and training system to meet the needs of the State through the provision of strategic policy advice, research, planning and legislative services across relevant sectors.

Workforce and Organisational Capability

Ensure an innovative and effective organisation through responsive leadership and governance with a focus on developing and valuing staff.

Priority Projects 2009-2011

Financial Accountability Framework for Non-Government Schools

Strengthen compliance and accountability by establishing a comprehensive framework for the regulation of non-government schools in Western Australia.

Assurance Framework for Education Providers

Enhance effectiveness and efficiency by developing an integrated framework for the regulation of providers that spans the education and training sectors in Western Australia.

Supply of Professional Workforce

Provide analysis to enable stakeholders to prevent or ameliorate shortages in the supply of labour for the professions in Western Australia.

Working Smarter

Technology

Develop an information plan that provides a framework for development and management of information projects, technology and systems needed to achieve the business strategies, goals and vision of the Department.

Human Resources

Implement a plan to develop and support staff in order to become a workplace of choice.

Legislative Reform

Timely completion of statutory reviews and the preparation of amending bills as required by the Government's legislative program for the education portfolio.

Department of Education Services - Functions (Data as at October 2008)

	REGULATION Enhance public confidence in the quality and integrity of education and training through effective and efficient regulation	FUNDING Improve access to a world-class education system by allocating grants and subsidies to non-government schools, supporting diversity and parental choice
SCHOOL EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registers and re-registers non-government schools (~315 schools) Considers and recommends applications for the establishment of new and significantly changing non-government schools Endorses community based courses for students in Years 11 and 12 Manages applications for exemption from non-government school enrolment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administers State Government per capita grants to non-government schools (~\$263m) Manages a Low Interest Loan Scheme to the non-Government School sector (\$26.5m annually – ~752 loans to the value of ~\$233m) Administers a non-government School Psychology Services grant (~\$2.85m) Administers supplementation grants for special education students (~\$6.5m) Administers other grants to non-government schools (~\$2.3m)
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registers and monitors training providers (~456 providers) Recognises interstate training providers delivering in WA (986 providers) Accredits nationally recognised courses (~389 courses) Approves skills recognition Agents Issues trade certificates through skills recognition Acts on complaints relating to AQTF Provides information sessions assisting RTOs to understand the AQTF and the registration process 	
HIGHER EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredits and registers non-self accrediting higher education institutions (~22 providers and 106 courses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administers and funds WA Government sponsored scholarships. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WA Government Japanese Studies Scholarship and the WA Government /Hyogo Prefecture Japanese Studies Scholarship (2) WA Government/Curtin University of Technology Miri Scholarships - Sarawak (5) Curtin University of Technology Indigenous Fellowships (2) Administers a Low Interest Loan Scheme to the University of Notre Dame Australia (~\$1.5m annually)
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulates government and non-government schools, vocational education and training providers, and higher education providers to deliver education and training services to international students (~122 providers) Conciliation of international student concerns and grievances 	
ACROSS ALL SECTORS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administers grants to charitable and other public bodies (~\$5.5m) (e.g. Australian Music Examinations Board, WA Hospital Services and WA Institute for Deaf Education, and grants for students at risk programs)

STRATEGIC POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Position the education and training system to meet the needs of the State through the provision of strategic policy advice, research, planning and legislative services across relevant sectors

- Oversees the statutory review of education and training legislation and the drafting of new or amending legislation. For example:
 - review of the *Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004* (WACOT)
 - amendments to the *Curriculum Council Act 1997*
 - other reviews as required
- Participates in development of state and national policy on funding and regulation of non-government schools

- Participates in development of state and national policy on quality arrangements in the VET sector
- Provides secretariat support to the Training Accreditation Council (TAC)

- Supports the operation of the Western Australian Higher Education Council (WAHEC)
- Oversees the statutory review of education and training legislation and the drafting of new or amending legislation. For example:
 - amendments to the *Higher Education Act 2004*
 - amendments to the universities' acts as required
- Participates in development of state and national policy on quality and standards in higher education
- Liaises with the universities and provides support in the administration of the universities' Acts

- Oversees amendments to the *Education Service Providers (Full Fee Overseas Students) Registration Act 1991* (ESPRA)
- Supports the development of state and national policy in relation to the international education industry.

- Provides advice to the Minister and Government on matters relating to school education, vocational education and training and higher education
- Provides advice to the Minister and Government on Aboriginal education and training and rural and remote education and training through the AETC and RREAC
- Undertakes research in a range of areas such as:
 - international education
 - supply of the professional workforce
 - non-government schools
 - regulation of education markets

WORKFORCE AND ORGANISATIONAL CAPABILITY

Ensure an innovative and effective organisation through responsive leadership and governance with a focus on developing and valuing staff

GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

- Strategic planning
- Financial management
- Human resource management
- Compliance with Public Sector standards
- Compliance with government requirements
- Risk management
- Internal audit
- Records management
- Information technology management

LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED

Curtin University of Technology Act 1966

Edith Cowan University Act 1984

Education Service Providers (Full Fee Overseas Students) Registration Act 1991

Hale School Act 1876

Higher Education Act 2004

Murdoch University Act 1973

Murdoch University Planning Board Act 1970

School Education Act 1999 (Part 4 and other provisions of the Act as far as they apply to students enrolled at non-government schools)

University Building Act 1938

University Buildings Act 1930

University Buildings Act 1952

University Colleges Act 1926

University of Notre Dame Australia Act 1989

University of Western Australia Act 1911

Vocational Education and Training Act 1996 (Part 4 Division 1)

Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004

Guiding Values

The core values underpinning the Department's activities are a commitment to:

- being **proactive** in supporting change where it is needed and making a difference through the services, advice and assistance that the Department provides
- being **responsive** and flexible to changing needs and being able to take action quickly without undue formality
- **advancing** continual improvement in services to the Western Australian education and training community and the outcomes for Government
- **investing** in our people appropriately through a systematic approach to continual improvement and satisfaction.



Principal Stakeholders

Minister for Education
 Minister for Training
 Minister Assisting Minister for Education
 Association of Independent Schools of WA Inc
 Australian University Quality Agency
 Catholic Education Office of WA
 Chair and Deputy Chair RREAC
 Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
 Community/consumers of education and training in rural and remote areas of WA
 Curriculum Council
 Funders and providers of education and training in rural and remote areas of WA
 Industry Bodies
 International Education Providers
 Individual Non-Government Schools
 Organisations, Agencies and others represented on the AETC and the RREAC
 Other State Government Departments
 Other State and Territory Registering/Course Accrediting Bodies
 Registered Training Organisations
 Seventh Day Adventist Schools (WA) Inc
 State Training Board
 Swan Christian Education Association Inc
 Training Accreditation Council
 The Anglican Schools Commission Inc
 Western Australian Universities



The Department of Education Services plays a crucial role in strengthening and safeguarding the quality of education and training in Western Australia

Contact Details

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General Enquiries

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www.des.wa.gov.au

Higher Education	9441 1972
International Education	9441 1910
Non-Government Schools	9441 1973
Vocational Education and Training	9441 1910
Aboriginal Education and Training Council (AETC)	9441 1975 aetc@des.wa.gov.au
Rural and Remote Education Advisory Council (RREAC)	9441 1942 des@des.wa.gov.au
Training Accreditation Council (TAC)	9441 1910 tac@des.wa.gov.au

For information on Government Schools and public TAFE Colleges contact the Department of Education and Training (DET) on 9264 4111; www.det.wa.edu.au



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