

Department of Employment, Education and Training

EXPENSES AND APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Budget
	\$000	\$000
Output Group		
Employment	17 780	18 698
Government Education	383 075	393 258
Non-Government Education	70 882	71 920
Training	58 606	56 708
Total Operating Expenses	530 343	540 584
<i>less</i>		
Depreciation and Amortisation	17 279	17 276
DCIS Services Free of Charge	10 697	10 758
Agency Revenue (a)	93 501	95 343
Use of Cash Balances	3 406	- 500
Other Accrual/Non-cash Items		500
<i>equals</i>		
Output Appropriation	405 460	417 207
Capital Expenditure		8 400
<i>less</i>		
Capital Receipts	- 20	
Use of Cash Balances	20	8 400
<i>equals</i>		
Capital Appropriation		

Total 2004-05 Staffing: 3 782

(a) Operating Revenue less Output Revenue, Goods and Services Received Free of Charge and Profit/Loss on Disposal of Assets

Agency Profile

Overview

The role of the Department of Employment, Education and Training is to develop employment initiatives that will enhance the social and economic prosperity of the Northern Territory, develop Territory students through preschool, primary, secondary and vocational education and training (VET) programs, and manage work health programs to ensure that people in the Territory have a safe working environment. Key functional responsibilities include:

- forecasting and determining employment opportunities;
- managing work health programs;
- delivering quality educational programs to students enrolled in Government and non-government schools;
- developing and providing advice on the preschool, primary, secondary and tertiary education policies of Government; and
- resourcing the delivery of quality VET programs to enrolled students.

Strategic Issues

- Maximise employment and training opportunities for all Territorians, particularly Indigenous Territorians.
- Improve educational outcomes for all students, particularly Indigenous students, in all key areas.
- Safe employment, learning and public environments.
- Efficient and effective systems to facilitate improvement in the above priority outcomes.

Budget Highlights

- Funding of \$3.45 million ongoing for the final phase of program expansions commenced in 2001-02, such as the recruitment of 100 additional teachers over four years, the introduction of a student bursary scheme, the commencement of an alternative education provision scheme and the recruitment of additional school attendance officers.
- \$1.25 million ongoing to support expansion of the Accelerated Literacy Program in 2004-05 to provide the teaching technology and to build the capacity to train teachers. The program has been trialled successfully in six pilot schools and is designed to accelerate the literacy skills of marginalised learners who have failed to make the appropriate literacy gains in schools.
- An additional \$2.25 million ongoing from 2003-04 to improve information technology infrastructure in schools. This funding will improve computer network access for schools and provide infrastructure to assist with the collection and analysis of student data.
- Further one-off increase of \$0.75 million in 2004-05 to supplement the \$1 million allocated in 2003-04 to upgrade furniture for teachers housed in remote communities.
- Funding of \$0.5 million in 2004-05 for capital equipment needs of urban and remote schools, and community education centres. This funding is in addition to the agency's existing funding pool for schools' minor equipment and the one-off funding of \$1 million provided for this purpose in 2003-04.
- Funding of \$0.3 million ongoing for the introduction of a \$5 000 per school grants program to assist Government schools in need to purchase books, information and communication technology, furniture and fittings, and playground equipment.
- Increased funding of \$0.5 million ongoing for capital and interest assistance to the non-government school sector to expand and improve schools' infrastructure.
- An increase of \$0.6 million ongoing from 2003-04 for additional financial assistance to non-government schools to reflect increased education delivery costs associated with curriculum, special student services and information technology.
- An additional \$0.25 million ongoing from 2003-04 to increase the availability of programs for students with disabilities.
- An additional \$1.2 million in 2004-05, and \$2.56 million ongoing, has been allocated to fund the continued employment of Aboriginal Islander Education Workers. The program was previously funded by the Commonwealth and assists with increasing Indigenous student enrolment, attendance and retention, literacy, numeracy and other educational outcomes.

- Provide every Government school classroom teacher with a laptop computer to strengthen teachers' computer literacy and increase access to online school resources. Around \$5.0 million will be spent over the next four years and \$1.7 million ongoing to implement this initiative.
- An independent Teacher Registration Board in the Northern Territory will be established to ensure teachers employed in Government and non-government schools have suitable qualifications, have undergone a criminal history check and are encouraged to commit to ongoing professional development. Operational costs are expected to be \$0.47 million in 2004-05 and around \$0.41 million ongoing, which will be funded from registration fees (\$0.18 million per annum) and Government financial assistance.
- *Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce* aims to deliver enhanced training and skills development, support for apprentices and trainees and incentives for employers. Funding for this new three-year plan will increase from \$0.75 million in 2003-04 to \$1.58 million in 2004-05.
- Additional Government financial assistance of \$0.39 million for 2003-04 and 2004-05 for Footprints Forward to assist with employment opportunities for Indigenous youth in Alice Springs.
- Additional one-off grant funding of \$3 million in 2003-04 for Charles Darwin University to build a higher education facility in Alice Springs (\$2.5 million) and to meet additional costs associated with the merger with Centralian College (\$0.5 million).
- Establishment of the Priority Education Team with additional funding at a cost of \$0.3 million per annum for three years to facilitate public consultation on the *Secondary Education Report*.
- Establish a pilot Teacher Support Unit in the Barkly region at a cost of \$0.15 million from existing resources to build regional presence and improve the standard of support and service to remote teachers to improve their living conditions. This program will be expanded to other regions in later years if the pilot program is successful.
- Acquisition of Marvin software at a cost of \$0.18 million ongoing from internal reprioritisation. This software is an interactive audio-visual package where languages can be programmed to animations. It is expected to be a particularly useful tool in an Indigenous setting, and it has the potential to be an outstanding education tool that can be integrated with other communications media and delivery vehicles.
- Redevelopment of the NT WorkSafe System that is used for the administration of claims, insurance policies, occupational licences, plant and machinery registration, and workplace visits. Redevelopment cost is expected to be \$0.6 million over two years and will be funded from existing agency resources.
- Establishment of an enhanced literacy and numeracy testing program that has national credibility for the testing of years 3, 5 and 7. This program will be administered by the Australian Curriculum Corporation at a cost of \$0.61 million ongoing and funded from within the current budget.

- Development of a new four-year planning framework for Indigenous education in the Northern Territory at a cost of \$0.25 million from existing resources. This work will build on the progress of the *Indigenous Education Strategic Plan 2000-2004* that was developed as a result of the Learning Lessons Review.
- The following table shows the approved major capital projects for 2004-05. Amounts shown are the total project costs and are not necessarily the cash commitments for 2004-05. For further details of these and other projects, see Budget Paper No. 4.

2004-05 Major Capital Works Projects	\$M
Nakara Primary School – stage 1, redevelop to current design parameters and appropriately cater for 360 students	1.0
Alawa Primary School – stage 1, redevelop to current design parameters and appropriately cater for 360 students	1.0
Remote schools – stage 3, improvements and upgrades to various remote schools	2.0

Outputs and Performance

OUTPUT COSTS

Output Group/Output	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Budget	Variation
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Employment	17 780	18 698	918
Employment Initiatives	13 145	14 023	878
Regulation of Occupational Health and Safety	4 635	4 675	40
Government Education	383 075	393 258	10 183
Preschool Education	18 304	18 776	472
Primary Education	229 200	237 481	8 281
Secondary Education	120 928	125 210	4 282
International Education	990	1 012	22
Tertiary Education	13 653	10 779	- 2 874
Non-Government Education	70 882	71 920	1 038
Primary Education	44 047	44 695	648
Secondary Education	26 835	27 225	390
Training	58 606	56 708	- 1 898
Vocational Education and Training Services	58 606	56 708	- 1 898
Total Operating Expenses	530 343	540 584	10 241

Key Variations

- Overall increase in funding of more than \$10 million from 2004-05 across all output groups for growth in service delivery costs. A major component is increased employee expenses for growth in teacher salaries, included in the Government Education output group.
- Employment output group includes an increase of \$0.83 million in 2004-05 funding over 2003-04 for the *Jobs Plan – Building the Northern Territory Workforce* initiative.
- In addition to the above growth increase, the Government Education output group costs increase in 2004-05 due to a range of initiatives, including:
 - new funding to provide laptop computers for all Government school teachers will increase by \$0.76 million compared to 2003-04;
 - \$0.3 million from 2004-05 to provide additional financial assistance to Government schools in need;
 - additional \$1.2 million in 2004-05 to fund the ongoing employment of Aboriginal Islander Education Workers;
 - funding of \$1.25 million from 2004-05 for the expansion of the Accelerated Literacy Program across Government schools;
 - costs of \$0.47 million in 2004-05 for the new independent Northern Territory Teacher Registration Board;
 - increase in expenditure capacity of \$0.25 million from 2004-05 for the Driver Training and Licensing Program, previously funded by Territory Insurance Office;
 - additional funding of \$3.45 million from 2004-05 to support final phase of existing program expansions, including the recruitment of 100 additional teachers over four years (\$2.9 million), student bursary scheme (\$0.27 million) and school attendance officers (\$0.25 million); and
 - commencing in 2004-05, an additional \$0.3 million per annum for three years to support the Priority Education Team.
- These increases are offset by reductions in the Government Education output group, primarily due to one-off funding in 2003-04 for specific items, which include:
 - \$3 million in 2003-04 to Charles Darwin University to build a new Alice Springs higher education facility and for Centralian College merger costs;
 - additional funding for housing furniture needs of teachers located in remote communities will reduce by \$0.25 million in 2004-05 compared to 2003-04; and
 - extra grant funding for capital equipment needs of Government schools and community education centres decreases by \$0.5 million in 2004-05.
- Non-Government Education output group costs rise in 2004-05 primarily due to increased funding of \$0.5 million for capital and interest assistance to the non-government schools sector to expand and improve schools' infrastructure.
- Training output group cost variance relates to one-off capital funding from the Commonwealth in 2003-04 for the Desert People's Centre.

Employment

Provides the capability to forecast and determine employment opportunities and to resource specific training programs to ensure a skilled workforce is available to meet identified employment needs. The administration and enforcement of the *Work Health Act* and the *Dangerous Goods Act* is also provided.

Outcome

Employment and training opportunities for Territorians are maximised and work safety practices are improved.

Employment Initiatives

Continued implementation and refinement of the Northern Territory's employment strategy, including labour market analysis. Provision of specific training initiatives, particularly for apprentices and trainees, to ensure a skilled workforce is available to meet identified employment needs.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Employment training programs developed and introduced	6	7
Apprentices and trainees 'in training'	2 400	2 700
<i>Quality</i>		
Apprenticeship and traineeship completions	42%	45%
Client satisfaction with services provided	80%	80%
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Agreed timeframes met for submission of employment initiatives and advice	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per apprentice/trainee	\$5 477	\$5 194

Regulation of Occupational Health and Safety

Provision of advice on occupational health and safety policy, identifying priorities and needs, encouraging employers and workers in safe work practices, and enforcing compliance with occupational health and safety standards.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Occupational health and safety training sessions provided to industry groups	50	50
Completed occupational health and safety visits, assessments and enforcements	4 000	4 000
<i>Quality</i>		
Industry groups and participants attending training sessions relative to the number of prospective attendees	5%	5%
Reduction in reported workplace injuries per annum	5%	5%
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Training programs provided within specified timelines	80%	80%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per visit, assessment, enforcement, and training	\$1 159	\$1 169

Government Education

Provision and delivery of quality educational programs to preschool, primary, secondary and vocational education and training students in Government schools. Also included is provision of funding for the Charles Darwin University and the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education.

Outcome

Improved educational outcomes for all students, particularly Indigenous students, in all key learning areas.

Preschool Education

Provision of access to optional part-time or full-time schooling in Government schools for children aged from four years in urban areas and from three years in remote areas.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Total preschool student enrolments ¹	3 249	3 401
Indigenous preschool student enrolments ¹	1 406	1 473
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Preschool education delivered during designated four terms	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per student	\$5 634	\$5 521

¹ Age grade August 2003 Census

Primary Education

Provision of comprehensive education programs for students in Government primary schools from Transition to Year 7, as well as curriculum programs to develop the knowledge, attitudes, skills and processes that promote children's learning and development and prepare them for further schooling.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Total primary school student enrolments ¹	20 177	20 535
Indigenous primary student enrolments ¹	8 699	8 807
Schools providing primary education	137	138
<i>Quality</i>		
Non-Indigenous students achieving national reading benchmark:		
- Year 3	93%	89%
- Year 5	93%	95%
Urban Indigenous students achieving national reading benchmark:		
- Year 3	58%	63%
- Year 5	73%	78%
Remote Indigenous students achieving national reading benchmark:		
- Year 3	21%	30%
- Year 5	23%	32%
Non-Indigenous students achieving national numeracy benchmark:		
- Year 3	93%	95%
- Year 5	90%	91%
Urban Indigenous students achieving national numeracy benchmark:		
- Year 3	87%	89%
- Year 5	63%	67%
Remote Indigenous students achieving national numeracy benchmark:		
- Year 3	46%	52%
- Year 5	20%	26%
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Primary education delivered during designated four terms	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per student	\$11 359	\$11 565

¹ Age grade August 2003 Census

Secondary Education

Provision of access to full-time or part-time secondary schooling in Government schools for children from Year 8 to Year 12, the delivery of quality education to promote and enhance the intellectual, personal and social development of students, and vocational education and training (VET) subjects provide additional options and pathways for students.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Total secondary student enrolments ¹	9 209	9 462
Indigenous secondary student enrolments ¹	3 103	3 189
Schools providing secondary education or secondary-aged programs	62	60
Students enrolled in one or more VET subjects	1 293	1 475
VET modules undertaken	13 017	14 362
<i>Quality</i>		
Apparent retention rate from Year 8 to Year 12	65%	68%
Apparent retention rate Year 10 to Year 12	85%	87%
Students who qualified for the Northern Territory Certificate of Education	638	627
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Secondary education delivered during designated four terms	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per student	\$13 132	\$13 233

¹ Age grade August 2003 Census

International Education

Provision of policy advice, facilitation of teacher and student exchanges, management of the fee-paying overseas students program, and hosting and organising study tour groups.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Fee-paying overseas students	65	75
<i>Quality</i>		
Students achieving minimum curriculum requirement	90%	90%
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Appropriate placement of overseas students in accordance with schedule	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost of facilitation per student	\$15 230	\$13 500

Tertiary Education

Provision of funding for the Charles Darwin University, Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and provision of assistance to tertiary-level students.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Operating grant to Charles Darwin University	\$7.0M	\$6.5M
Repairs and maintenance grant for vocational and education training providers	\$2.8M	\$2.6M
Infrastructure grant for Charles Darwin University	\$2.5M	
Other tertiary assistance	\$0.89M	\$0.89M
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Payment of grant as scheduled	100%	100%

Non-Government Education

Provides financial support to the education of Territory students in the non-government education sector.

Outcome

Quality choice of education alternatives for Territory students.

Primary Education

Administration of Commonwealth and Territory grants for non-government primary schools.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Schools providing primary education	26	25
Total primary student enrolments ¹	5 093	5 117
Indigenous primary student enrolments ¹	1 092	1 397
<i>Quality</i>		
Grants administered in accordance with policy	100%	100%
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Education delivered during designated four terms	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per student	\$8 649	\$8 735

¹ Age grade August 2003 Census

Secondary Education

Administration of Commonwealth and Territory grants for non-government secondary schools.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Schools providing secondary education	18	17
Total secondary student enrolments ¹	3 449	3 505
Indigenous secondary student enrolments ¹	1 216	1 237
Students enrolled in one or more VET subjects	290	290
<i>Quality</i>		
Grants administered in accordance with policy	100%	100%
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Education delivered during the designated four terms	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per student	\$7 780	\$7 767

¹ Age grade August 2003 Census

Training

Provision of vocational training that meets the present and future needs of Government, industry and the community, which is nationally recognised in accordance with the Australian Quality Training Framework.

Outcome

Training opportunities for Territorians maximised.

Performance Measures	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Estimate
<i>Quantity</i>		
Annual hours curriculum delivered	3.31M	3.28M
<i>Quality</i>		
Registered training organisations, compliance with Australian Quality Training Framework (audit)	100%	100%
Level of invalid student enrolments (audit)	2.5%	2.5%
Successful training completions	70%	70%
<i>Timeliness</i>		
Resource agreements issued and monitored within appropriate timeframes	75%	85%
Agreed timeframes met for submission of information to national agencies	100%	100%
<i>Cost</i>		
Average cost per hour of annual hours curriculum	\$17.71	\$17.29

Statement of Financial Performance

	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Budget
	\$000	\$000
OPERATING REVENUE		
Taxation Revenue		
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>		
Current	82 974	86 071
Capital	8 916	7 671
<i>Sales of Goods and Services</i>		
Output Revenue	405 460	417 207
Other Agency Revenue	1 438	1 448
Interest Revenue		
Miscellaneous Revenue	173	153
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge	10 697	10 758
Profit/Loss on Disposal of Assets		
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	509 658	523 308
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Employee Expenses	244 873	257 018
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>		
Purchases of Goods and Services	45 366	43 474
Repairs and Maintenance	19 000	18 000
Depreciation and Amortisation	17 279	17 276
DCIS Services Free of Charge	10 697	10 758
Other Administrative Expenses		
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>		
Current	182 279	185 193
Capital	10 849	8 865
Community Service Obligations		
Interest Expense		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	530 343	540 584
NET OPERATING SURPLUS	- 20 685	- 17 276
AGENCY REVENUE FOR APPROPRIATION PURPOSES	93 501	95 343
(Operating Revenue less Output Revenue, Goods and Services Received Free of Charge and Profit/Loss on Disposal of Assets)		

Revenue Administered for Central Holding Authority

	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Budget
	\$000	\$000
OPERATING REVENUE		
Taxation Revenue		
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>		
GST Revenue		
Current		
Capital		
<i>Sales of Goods and Services</i>		
Fees from Regulatory Services	94	274
Interest Revenue		
Royalties and Rents		
Other Revenue	38	38
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	132	312

Statement of Financial Position

	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Budget
	\$000	\$000
ASSETS		
Cash and Deposits	7 956	56
Receivables	2 347	1 847
Prepayments	142	142
Inventories		
Advances and Investments		
Land and Improvements	626 343	617 468
Plant and Equipment	387	386
Other Assets		
TOTAL ASSETS	637 175	619 899
LIABILITIES		
Deposits Held	49	49
Creditors and Accruals	10 065	10 065
Borrowings and Advances	88	88
Provisions	20 071	20 071
Other Liabilities		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	30 273	30 273
NET ASSETS	606 902	589 626
EQUITY		
<i>Capital</i>		
Opening Balance	612 260	618 157
Equity Injections/Withdrawals	5 897	
Reserves	44 974	44 974
<i>Accumulated Funds</i>		
Opening Balance	- 35 544	- 56 229
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)	- 20 685	- 17 276
TOTAL EQUITY	606 902	589 626

Assets and Liabilities Administered for Central Holding Authority

	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Budget
	\$000	\$000
Assets		
Taxes Receivable		
Grants and Subsidies Receivable		
Royalties and Rent Receivable		
Other Receivables	1	1
Total Assets	1	1
Liabilities		
Central Holding Authority Revenue Payable	1	1
Unearned Central Holding Authority Revenue		
Total Liabilities	1	1
Net Assets		

Statement of Cash Flows

	2003-04 Estimate	2004-05 Budget
	\$000	\$000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating Receipts		
Taxes Received		
<i>Grants and Subsidies Received</i>		
Current	82 974	86 571
Capital	8 916	7 671
<i>Receipts from Sales of Goods and Services</i>		
Output Revenue Received	405 460	417 207
Other Agency Receipts	1 611	1 601
Interest Received		
Total Operating Receipts	498 961	513 050
Operating Payments		
Payments to Employees	244 873	257 018
Payments for Goods and Services	64 366	61 474
<i>Grants and Subsidies Paid</i>		
Current	182 279	185 193
Capital	10 849	8 865
Community Service Obligations		
Interest Paid		
Total Operating Payments	502 367	512 550
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	- 3 406	500
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Investing Receipts		
Proceeds from Asset Sales		
Repayment of Advances		
Sales of Investments		
Total Investing Receipts		
Investing Payments		
Purchases of Assets		8 400
Advances and Investing Payments		
Total Investing Payments		8 400
NET CASH FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		- 8 400
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Financing Receipts		
Proceeds of Borrowings		
Deposits Received	- 20	
<i>Equity Injections</i>		
Capital Appropriation		
Other Equity Injections		
Total Financing Receipts	- 20	
Financing Payments		
Repayment of Borrowings		
Finance Lease Payments		
Equity Withdrawals		
Total Financing Payments		
NET CASH FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	- 20	
Net Increase in Cash Held	- 3 426	- 7 900
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year	11 382	7 956
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	7 956	56