

Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 1) 2004 No. 294

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Statutory Rules 2004 No. 294

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Education Science and Training

Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000

Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 1)

Section 18 of the *Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000* (the Act) provides that the Governor-General may make regulations prescribing matters required or permitted by the Act to be prescribed, or necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to the Act.

Section 14 of the Act sets out the appropriations for non-ABSTUDY payments for the period from 1 January 2001 to 30 June 2005. Non-ABSTUDY payments are payments (other than ABSTUDY payments) made for the purposes of the Act to government and non-government Indigenous education providers and advisory bodies, registered educational institutions, individuals, or associated Indigenous education organisations. Payments are made under the Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives Program (IESIP) which includes elements such as Supplementary Recurrent Assistance, the National Indigenous English Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, Targeted Outcomes Projects, and English as a Second Language - Indigenous Languages Speaking Students.

The Regulations make provision for an increase in the amounts that may be payable to organisations and institutions in order to supplement the cost of delivering educational services to Indigenous students for the period from 1 January 2004 to 30 June 2005.

Subsection 14(5) allows the making of regulations to increase the appropriations specified in section 14 by reference to changes in an index determined in writing by the Minister for Finance and Administration for the purposes of section 14 of the Act. The Index to be used for this purpose is the Wage Cost Index Number 1 (WCI1). The Minister for Finance and Administration has determined in writing the changes in the WCI1.

These Regulations have the effect of increasing the amount specified in subsection 14(4) by a factor of 1.090, which is the cumulative factor by which the WCI1 has changed from the 1999-00 financial year to the 2003-04 financial year. In addition, Regulations correct subregulations 4(3) and (4) of the Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Regulations 2001 which incorrectly referred to the base year for the WCI1 AS "2000-2001" when it should have read "1999-2000".

These Regulations provide an additional \$3.0 million for the period 1 January 2004 to 30 June 2005.

These Regulations commenced on the date of gazettal.