

Overseas travel 2016–2017

Overseas travel costs

The department reports actual 'agency' and 'other' costs for all overseas travel by departmental staff. Agency costs are those met from departmental funds and include grants, revenue from international study tours and international student programs, and contractual agreement costs paid directly by the department. 'Other' costs include personal contributions, or external funding from overseas governments, external business clients, P&C Association fundraising and professional associations. Overseas travel by staff within the department falls into three main categories:

- business
- professional development
- school study tours.

The report is covered by the following sectors of the department:

- state schools
- Queensland School Sports Unit
- Corporate Staff – including regional and central office staff
- Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority
- Queensland College of Teachers.

School study tours provide opportunities for hundreds of Queensland students annually to participate in co-curricular learning opportunities, including international competitions, sporting events, and language and intercultural immersion experiences. The majority of school study tour costs are from parent and teacher contributions for travel by students and the teachers who accompany them. School study tour costs are reported only when agency funds are used.

On 8 June 2011, the former Department of Education, Training and Employment, represented by TAFE Queensland East Coast (formerly Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE) entered into a contract with the Commonwealth of Australia, through Australian Aid, for the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC) to the value of \$144.036 million exclusive of GST for the period 1 July 2011–30 June 2015.

TAFE Queensland has executed an extension to this contract for the period 1 July 2015–30 June 2018 and the value of this contract extension is \$96 million. This contract requires APTC officers to travel to and between various Pacific Island Forum countries in order to fulfil the APTC contract requirements.

The Department of Education and Training ceased reporting TAFE Queensland overseas travel in 2015–16 but continued to report on APTC overseas travel. From 2016–17, APTC will be part of the TAFE Queensland Open Data Report.