



Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

A large, stylized grey scissors graphic is positioned diagonally across the page. The blades are open, and the handles are visible. The scissors appear to be cutting through a red horizontal band that spans the width of the page.

The Education Portfolio
Annual Deregulation Report
2014

On 23 December 2014 the Education portfolio became the Education and Training portfolio as a result of Machinery of Government changes. As part of these changes, responsibility for early childhood education and care was transferred to the Social Services portfolio, and responsibility for vocational education and skills was transferred into the portfolio from the Industry portfolio.

This deregulation report covers the deregulation activities undertaken by the former Education portfolio during 2014 all of which preceded and were therefore not impacted by the Machinery of Government changes.

Foreword



Cutting red tape and unnecessary regulation is a key priority for the Australian Government. The aim is to reduce the regulatory impact from all portfolios on individuals, businesses and community organisations by at least \$1 billion a year. This report sets out the deregulation achievements of the Education portfolio in 2014.

Real achievements have been made in reducing or eliminating the regulation we impose and the expectation is that new regulation will only be imposed where absolutely necessary. Compliance and reporting requirements have begun to be simplified so organisations have more time to spend educating and caring for students, and less on administration.

Consultation has been occurring with education sectors on individual reforms. In addition, the establishment of the Deregulation Ministerial Advisory Council in April 2014 by the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education has provided an independent forum for advice, a sounding board and a source of ideas for further deregulation opportunities.

The Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education has asked me to lead the deregulation agenda within the portfolio.

I am pleased with the achievements of 2014, and I would like to thank all who have contributed. These achievements demonstrate considerable progress. I look forward to continuing this work throughout 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Scott Ryan". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Senator the Hon Scott Ryan

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education and Training

17 March 2015

The Education Portfolio

Annual Deregulation Report 2014

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Portfolio highlights

In 2014 the Education portfolio (Education) identified net regulatory savings of \$40.77 million, with more opportunities identified for future reforms.

An audit was undertaken to identify the stock of regulation administered by the portfolio and the cost imposed by those regulations. The outcomes of the audit estimated a regulatory impact of \$1.828 billion per annum from the regulation administered by the portfolio. The audit provided an opportunity to quantify and evaluate the portfolio's regulation. While much of the regulation is necessary in order to ensure value and accountability for programme expenditure, the audit also enabled the portfolio to identify areas of unnecessary regulation.

Education contributed to the 2014 Autumn and Spring Repeal Days, developed a forward work programme of regulatory reform opportunities, and complied with the new Regulation Impact Statement processes.

Education has endeavoured to embed a culture of better regulation; where regulation is not an automatic response to a policy objective and, when necessary, is well designed with the impact of the regulation on individuals, businesses and community organisations taken into account.

A Deregulation Unit was established to support the agenda within the portfolio. This work was overseen by the Deregulation Committee, a subcommittee of the Executive Board, chaired by a Deputy Secretary and made up of senior representatives from across the portfolio. Professional development for staff was provided including opportunities to attend workshops and master classes on better regulation practices and the deregulation agenda.

Within the portfolio work was progressed to:

- support the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Child Care and Early Childhood Learning
- streamline the implementation of the National Quality Framework
- implement the recommendations of the Review of Higher Education Regulation and the Review of Reporting Requirements for Universities
- review the regulation of the provision of education to overseas students.

Consultation with the sectors has been substantial for all these reforms and has included consideration of regulatory changes.

In addition, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, the Minister for Education, established the Deregulation Ministerial Advisory Council for Education to advise on regulatory opportunities in the portfolio and be a sounding board for regulation reform activities.

Examples of activity from 2014 that contributed to the reduction of unnecessary regulation include:

- In response to Minister Pyne's direction as part of the Government's response to the Review of Higher Education Regulation, the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) has taken a deregulatory approach, simplifying processes, and improving timeliness to register higher education providers and accredit courses.
- Under the Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) programme, better IT has supported improved data collection from HIPPY sites and streamlined reporting

between the department and the provider. The frequency of progress reports has been reduced from monthly to a quarterly basis.

- Census requirements under the *Australian Education Act 2013* have been simplified for non-government schools, including the removal of data no longer needed.



TEQSA has implemented a new approach for renewal of registration applications. Case managers now engage in preliminary discussions with each provider prior to commencing any renewal process. Feedback from providers on the new approach includes:

- *One University reported that early TEQSA case manager engagement helped focus their efforts and significantly reduced the work required to prepare their renewal of registration application. They had budgeted for a new full time staff member and instead managed the task within existing resources.*
- *Another institution reported that the regulatory impact associated with their re-registration was about 30% less than previously expected.*

Summary of key regulatory savings and costs 2014

This section (Table 1) captures key measures with regulatory savings or costs of \$2 million or greater. The measures were reported or announced between 18 September 2013 and 31 December 2014.

Table 1: Summary of key regulatory savings and costs 2014

KEY MEASURES ¹	Reported
	(\$ million)
Higher Education Reform — Expanding Opportunity — expansion of the demand driven system and sharing the cost fairly	\$2.743
Higher Education Participation Programme (HEPP) — combining two existing programme funding activities into one	-\$2.043
OLT Grants and Fellowships Programme	-\$2.263
Removing mandatory Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) Staff Hours Survey	-\$2.364
Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) review – Administrative changes to the Provider Registration and International Student Management System	-\$2.576
Enhance Higher Education Information Management System (HEIMS) — Streamlined data collection	-\$2.937
Amendments to the <i>Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) Act 2011</i>	-\$4.644
Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) – reduce reporting requirements	-\$6.192
National Assessment Reform – National Online Assessment Capability Platform	-\$9.669
Total	-\$29.945

¹ Additional measures are at Appendix A

Regulation Impact Statements

As a part of the Government's deregulation agenda, policy makers are encouraged to consider the regulatory impact early in the policy development process. All policy proposals must be accompanied by an Australian Government Regulation Impact Statement (RIS):

- all cabinet submissions require a RIS
- all RISs are classified as short, standard or long form depending on the level of regulatory impact
- all RISs must quantify regulatory costs for business, community organisations and individuals
- regulatory costs must be offset by equal or greater regulatory reductions.

The portfolio complied in full with RIS requirements for decisions announced or regulations introduced during 2014, including the measures relating to the Mid-year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) and Budget processes.

A long form Australian Government RIS was required for the Higher Education Reforms. This was completed and assessed as compliant by the Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR). In summary:

- On 28 August 2014, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education introduced the Higher Education and Research Reform Bill 2014 into the Australian Parliament, to implement measures announced in the 2014-15 Budget.
- The RIS accompanying the Bill identified the regulatory problem that the reforms were targeted to address. These include that price controls on subsidised undergraduate and some postgraduate degrees distort the efficient functioning of the higher education market; and that limits on which institutions can deliver subsidised courses, constrain competition.
- The RIS concluded that the reforms would provide a net benefit, delivering a stronger, more dynamic and more efficient higher education sector.
- As the reforms have been assessed by the OBPR as having a substantial impact on the sector and the economy, the Australian Government's RIS process requires a post-implementation review for the higher education reforms within five years of the reform being implemented.

Proposed changes to the National Quality Framework (NQF) in the early childhood education and care sector required preparation of a Council of Australian Government (COAG) RIS. In summary:

- On 7 November 2014, the Education Council released a Consultation RIS containing a number of options for consideration by all governments in relation to the *Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010*, the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011, and to associated guidance material.
- The COAG RIS was approved by the Office of Best Practice Regulation.
- The Education Council highlighted options for potential changes including to the regulation of Family Day Care services and Outside School Hours Care and the possibility of expanding the scope of services regulated under the NQF.
- The consultation included face-to-face sessions and written submissions, surveys and individual comments received from November 2014 to January 2015. The outcome of the review will be made public when all governments have considered the feedback in a

Decision Regulation Impact Statement and agreed any subsequent changes to the National Quality Framework.

- Following the Machinery of Government changes in December 2014, this will be progressed by the Department of Social Services.

Table 2: Regulation Impact Statement compliance 2014

		RIS Compliance	PM's Exemptions	PIR required
Higher Education Reforms	Australian Government – long form	Yes	No	Yes
Preliminary RIS assessments were undertaken for an additional 27 measures, which were assessed by OBPR as minor or machinery in nature and therefore did not required a standard or long form RIS				

Portfolio activity supporting the Government's red tape agenda

Deregulation Unit

A Deregulation Unit was established in November 2013, utilising existing staff from both corporate and line areas. The Unit reports to a Senior Executive Officer and as at 1 December 2014 had 7.4 full time equivalent staff, ranging from Australian Public Service Level 5 to Executive Level 2.

The Deregulation Unit has assisted line areas with:

- the audit of regulation
- Regulatory Impact Statements including identifying viable alternative policy options
- implementation of deregulation policy and practice, including better regulation
- reporting on deregulation progress (including quarterly and annual reports)
- coordination of Autumn and Spring Repeal Day matters
- development of the forward work programme
- secretariat support for the Deregulation Ministerial Advisory Council and the department's Deregulation Committee and associated sub-committee
- liaising with Office of Best Practice Regulation and Office of Deregulation in Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's (PM&C).

Ministerial Advisory Councils

The portfolio's Deregulation Ministerial Advisory Council was established by the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education in April 2014. Council members were appointed for two years:

- Mr Stephen Baker (Deputy Chair), adviser on finance, economic strategies and major reform
- Professor Joan Cooper, higher education consultant
- Mr Stephen Elder, Executive Director, Catholic Education Office, Melbourne
- Professor Fred Hilmer AO, immediate past President and Vice-Chancellor, University of New South Wales.

As outlined in the Terms of Reference, the Council assists the Minister by:

- identifying potential targets for regulatory reform (e.g. areas of inefficient regulation, excessive red tape or unnecessarily high levels of regulation)
- providing a sounding board for regulatory reform or repeal proposals
- providing feedback on the progress of regulatory reform within the portfolio
- providing advice on broader policy issues relevant to the portfolio.

On 3 October 2014 Senator the Hon Scott Ryan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, chaired the inaugural meeting of council on behalf of the Minister. Major matters discussed were the:

- importance of good policy and programme development/design and the consideration of international experience
- importance of stakeholder consultation, including with the relevant industry to effectively identify problem regulation

- problem of duplication of reporting and compliance requirements between levels of government, particularly Commonwealth and state/territory governments
- need to balance risk and regulation, noting that different organisations may have different levels of risk.

Letters of Expectation

Regulatory costs do not just come from the design of the regulations. Poorly administered regulation can also impose unnecessary costs that reduce productivity. In March 2014 the Minister for Education issued letters of expectation to the portfolio regulators setting out:

- the Government's policy framework in which the regulator is expected to operate
- strategic intention on how work should be conducted by the regulator
- importance of regulators exercising their regulatory functions in accordance with the appropriate legislation
- expectation that regulators act in accordance with best practice
- preference for regulators to adopt a risk based approach in relation to compliance obligations and enforcement responses.

The letters were sent to:

- Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency — Registers and evaluates the performance of higher education providers against the Higher Education Standards Framework which all providers must meet in order to enter and remain within Australia's higher education system.
- Tuition Protection Service — Assists international students whose education provider fails to either start delivering or to continue delivering a course to a student that the student has paid for. In cases where a provider does not meet its obligations to a student, the Tuition Protection Service offers a refund or placement to a student so that they are able to either complete their studies in another course or with another education provider or receive a refund of their unspent tuition fees.
- Australian Research Council — Provides advice to the Government on research matters, manages the National Competitive Grants Program, and administers Excellent in Research for Australia.

The Minister also wrote to the Secretary of the Department of Education.

The Audit of Regulation — major findings

The audit of regulation sought to identify all regulation administered by the portfolio including regulation with the highest impact and/or potential for reform. The audit provided: a comprehensive view of the portfolio’s regulation; a better understanding of how the regulation impacts on stakeholders; and a baseline against which progress in reducing red tape could be measured. While much of the regulation identified in the audit is beneficial and necessary to ensure the proper administration of programmes and use of Australian Government money, the audit also enabled the portfolio to identify areas of unnecessary or cumbersome regulation.

The audit examined all legislation administered by Education at 3 October 2013, including record keeping and reporting requirements, and a diverse range of quasi regulation relating to forms, rules and codes.

A list of relevant legislation, set out in the Administrative Arrangements Order that applied at 12 December 2013 is at Appendix B.

Through the audit more than 1,800 individual regulatory activities were identified, amounting to an estimated regulatory impact across the portfolio of \$1.828 billion. Costing the regulation was undertaken using the Regulatory Burden Measurement Framework developed by PM&C and included the regulatory impact of both one-off and ongoing costs.

Education’s audit was undertaken in two stages:

- Stage one: developing a catalogue of existing regulation ranked by impact
- Stage two: determining the total cost of regulation administered.

Stage one — stocktake and ranking of regulation

In stage one Education identified and recorded all regulation administered by the portfolio. Utilising a survey tool based on a template provided by the Office of Deregulation (OoD), more than 1800 regulatory activities were assessed for regulatory impact and the opportunity for reform.

The OoD encouraged portfolios to catalogue items of regulation at the framework level, grouping the relevant legislation, regulations and quasi-regulations as a package. In most instances Education defined frameworks as the overarching Act, with all the regulations that sit under the Act being included under that framework. In some cases, however, frameworks were composed of a combination of small measures or measures which did not sit under an overarching Act.

Stage two — costing

Stage two of the audit estimated the cost of the portfolio’s regulation.

The stock of regulation identified in stage one, and associated information, formed the basis for stage two. Clusters and portfolio agencies provided further detail on:

- population affected — which includes all businesses, individuals (parents, guardians and students), and community organisations affected by the regulation
- time taken to comply with the regulation — for example, where the requirement is expected to take three people two hours each to complete, the hours taken will be six
- frequency of the regulation — how often the affected population is expected to comply with the regulatory requirements

- any costs incurred by those affected by the regulation — other non-time related costs that are incurred as a part of the regulation for example purchasing equipment.

With the above information Education was able to apply formulas from PM&C's Regulatory Burden Measurement Framework to estimate the portfolio's overall regulatory cost. For example, to calculate the ongoing cost of a regulation, the following equation was used:

- population affected x time x frequency of regulation x relevant hourly wage rate

The framework includes consideration of compliance costs, including administrative costs, and delay costs associated with application and approval delays. Areas excluded from the framework include opportunity costs, business-as-usual costs, costs of non-compliance, indirect and direct financial costs and government to government regulation.

The Deregulation Ministerial Advisory Council considered initial results of the audit of regulations at their meeting in October 2014. Final results were presented to the council for comment out of session. Members expressed support for the results and interest in the results being used further to identify opportunities for regulatory reform.

Results

Education identified a total of 27 regulatory frameworks, each framework was categorised as high, medium or low regulatory impact:

- **seven high impact frameworks totalling \$1.733 billion**
 - *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* — \$661.3 million
provide tuition protection for overseas students to ensure they can receive the course they have paid for or a suitable alternative, and to support the integrity of the student visa system
 - National Quality Framework — *Education and Care Services National Law* — \$370.5 million
a quality standard designed to improve education and care across long day care, family day care, preschool/kindergarten, and outside school hours care
 - *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999* — \$260.5 million
provides the administrative framework to support, among other things, Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate and the approval of child care services
 - *Higher Education Support Act 2003* — \$245.5 million
provides Commonwealth financial support for higher education including payments to providers and financial assistance to students
 - *Australian Research Council Act 2001* — \$92.7 million
provides for the Commonwealth to fund research programmes and establishes the Australian Research Council (ARC)
 - *Australian Education Act 2013* — \$78.2 million
provides Commonwealth funding for schools, conditional on requirements relating to quality of education and accountability for the funding
 - *Higher Education Funding Act 1988* — \$24.4 million
remaining provisions following the introduction of the Higher Education Support Act 2003 as the primary legislation for Commonwealth funding for higher education

five medium impact frameworks totalling \$66.1 million

- *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011* — \$19.5 million establishes the national regulatory and quality assurance agency for higher education
- Inclusion and Professional Support Program — \$14.2 million promotes and maintains high quality, inclusive education and care for all children in eligible child care and early learning settings
- Funding agreements (miscellaneous) — \$12.4 million agreements across the early childhood education and care sector including the Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) Programme
- Other (Higher Education Research and International) — \$11.1 million various programmes and guidelines in the higher education, international education and research sectors
- Youth Connections — \$8.9 million a former programme for young people at risk of disengaging from education to make a successful transition onto further education, training or work

- **15 low impact frameworks totalling \$29 million.**

A summary of the cost of Education’s regulation at framework level is set out below.

Table 3: Education portfolio audit results by category of impact and costs

Impact Category	No. of frameworks	Regulatory Cost (\$ million)	Percentage of Total
High impact	7	\$1,733	95%
Medium impact	5	\$66	4%
Low impact	15	\$29	1%
Total	27	\$1,828	

The summary table below categorising frameworks by the department’s clusters shows the level of regulatory impact on Education’s sectors.

Table 4: Education portfolio audit results by cluster and number of frameworks

Cluster	No. of frameworks	Regulatory Cost (\$ million)	Percentage of Total
Early Childhood Education and Care	13	\$682	37%
Schools and Youth	6	\$91	5%
Higher Education, Research and International*	8	\$1,055	58%
Total	27	\$1,828	

** Including the Australian Research Council, Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency and the Tuition Protection Service*

Repeal Days

Each year there are two Repeal Day's one in Autumn and the other in Spring.

Autumn Repeal Day 2014

Autumn Repeal Day occurred on 26 March 2014 with a consolidated list of deregulation initiatives published on the www.cuttingredtape.gov.au website.

Education items published:

- Ministerial Direction to the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)
- Legislative change to streamline regulation of the higher education sector by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency
- Changing the National Quality Framework for early childhood education and care

Education items included in the *Statute Law Revision Act (No.1) 2014, Amending Acts 1901 to 1969 Repeal Act 2014* or the Education (Spent and Redundant Instruments) Repeal Regulation 2014:

- Bulk repeal of 61 spent and redundant legislative instruments
- Statute Law Revision Bill (No.1) 2014
 - Amendments to *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999*
 - Amendments to *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999*
 - Amendments to *Education Services for Overseas Students Legislation Amendment (Tuition Protection Service and Other Measures) Act 2012*
 - Amendments to *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011*
 - Repeal of *Independent Schools (Loans Guarantee) Act 1969*
 - Repeal of *Non-government Schools (Loans Guarantee) Act 1977*
- Amending Acts 1901 to 1969 Repeal Bill:
 - Repeal of *Australian National University Act 1947*
 - Repeal of *Australian National University Act (No. 2) 1947*
 - Repeal of *Australian National University Act 1960*
 - Repeal of *Australian National University Act 1963*
 - Repeal of *Australian National University Act 1965*
 - Repeal of *Australian National University Act 1967*

Spring Repeal Day 2014

Spring Repeal Day occurred on 29 October 2014 and consolidated list of deregulation initiatives published on the www.cuttingredtape.gov.au website.

Education items published:

- Removing mandatory Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) Staff Hours Surveys
- Implementing a package of higher education reforms
- Streamlining reporting requirements for the Helping Children with Autism: Positive Partnerships Programme

Education items that were included in the Spent and Redundant Instruments Repeal Regulation 2014 (No.2):

- Repeal of 39 redundant legislative instruments

Education items included in the *Amending Acts 1970 to 1979 Repeal Act 2014* – currently all are redundant Acts

- *Canberra College of Advanced Education Act 1970*
- *Australian National University Act 1971*
- *States Grants (Science Laboratories) Act 1971*
- *States Grants (Secondary Schools Libraries) Act 1971*
- *Commonwealth Teaching Service Act 1972*
- *States Grant (Advanced Education) Act 1973*
- *Australian National University Act 1973*
- *Commonwealth Teaching Service Act 1973*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act (No.3)1973*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act (No.4)1973*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act 1974*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act 1975*
- *Australian National University Act 1975*
- *Canberra College of Advanced Education Act 1975*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act 1976*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Amendment Act 1976*
- *Commonwealth Teaching Service Act 1976*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Amendment Act No.2 1976*
- *Commonwealth Teaching Service Amendment Act 1977*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education Assistance) Amendment Act 1977*
- *States Grants (Schools Assistance) Amendment Act 1978*
- *States Grants (Schools Assistance) Amendment Act 1977*
- *States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Amendment Act 1978*
- *States Grants (Schools Assistance) Amendment Act 1979*
- *States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Amendment Act 1979*
- *States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Amendment Act (No.2) 1979*
- *Australian National University Act 1979*
- *Canberra College of Advanced Education Amendment Act 1979.*

Education items included in the Statute Law Revision Bill (No.2) 2014

- Correction of a minor cross reference error in the *Australian Education Act 2013*.
- Minor amendments to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Act 1989 to replace old terminology of “servant” with “employee”.

Appendix A: Measures announced in 2014

Measure Title	Reported (million)
Amendment to the Education and Care Services National Law — changes to the supervisor certificates requirements	-\$0.154
Amendment to the Education and Care Services National Law — changes to the requirement of access to an Early Childhood Teacher in remote locations	-\$0.128
Amendment to the Education and Care Services National Law — Probationary periods	-\$0.390
Amendments to the <i>Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011</i>	-\$4.644
Building the Education Revolution (BER) amendments and Programme closure	-\$1.599
Cancellation of the Early Years Quality Fund (EYQF) Programme and redirect funding	-\$0.343
Education Services for Overseas Student (ESOS) review — Administrative changes to the Provider Registration and International Student Management System (PRISMS)	-\$2.576
Higher Education and Research Reform * — Enhance Higher Education Information Management System (HEIMS) — Streamlined data collection	-\$2.937
Higher Education and Research Reform * — Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) — reduce the reporting requirements	-\$6.192
Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY)	-\$0.443
Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT) — Reduction of Grant Rounds	-\$0.190
Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT) — Removal of additional requirements for Australian Awards for University Teaching program	-\$0.105
OLT Grants and Fellowships programmes	-\$2.263
Refocus the Student Resilience and Wellbeing Program	-\$0.004
Removal of the Institutional Performance Portfolio Information Collection (IPPIC)	-\$0.947
Removing mandatory Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) Staff Hours Surveys	-\$2.364
School Business Partnership Brokers — reduced reporting requirements	-\$0.119

Appendix A – measures reported through to 31 December 2014

Measure Title	Reported (million)
Simplifying the information collected as part of the annual school census	-\$0.257
Streamline reporting requirements for Teach For Australia	-\$0.044
Streamlining reporting requirements for the Helping Children with Autism: Positive Partnerships Programme	-\$0.058
Strengthening the Child Care Payments Compliance Programme	-\$0.119
Supporting students with Disabilities (MSSD) – reduced reporting requirements	-\$0.094
TEQSA Quality Assessment of English Language Proficiency – Cancellation	-\$0.412
TEQSA Thematic Review of Initial Teacher Education – Cancellation	-\$0.639
US-Australia Virtual Environmental Project reduction in quarterly reporting	-\$0.010
VET FEE-HELP scheme under the <i>Higher Education Support Act 2003</i>	-\$1.150
Miscellaneous adjustments	-\$1.081

Measures announced but not implemented in 2014	Cost / saving announced \$m
Higher Education and Research Reform * – A Sustainable Higher Education Loan Programme – HECS HELP benefit – cessation	-0.048
Higher Education and Research Reform * – Application of a five year freeze of HECS debt indexation for primary carers of children	0.462
Higher Education and Research Reform * – Establish a structural adjustment fund to assist universities to transition to the new market	0.046
Higher Education and Research Reform * – Expanding Opportunity – expansion of the demand driven system and sharing the cost fairly	2.743
Higher Education and Research Reform * – Full deregulation of student contributions and reduction in Commonwealth Subsidies	0.419
Higher Education and Research Reform * – Higher Education Participation Programme (HEPP) – combining two existing programme funding activities	-2.043
Higher Education and Research Reform * – Reduction in RTS funding and the introduction of RTS student fees deferrable through HELP Loans	0.293
Higher Education and Research Reform * – Remove a number of contribution and tuition fee requirements	-0.489

Appendix A – measures reported through to 31 December 2014

Measures announced but not implemented in 2014	Cost / saving announced \$m
National Assessment Reform – National Online Assessment Capability Platform	-9.669
Nationally Consistent Collection Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)	-1.248
Removing Mission-Based Compacts reporting requirement	-1.386
Streamlining Inclusion Support Subsidy (ISS) processes	-0.576

** On 3 December 2014 the Minister for Education introduced the Higher Education and Research Reform Bill 2014. The bill was introduced to the Senate on 2 March 2015.*

Appendix B: Legislation administered

The Department of Education

On 23 December 2014 the Education portfolio became the Education and Training portfolio as a result of Machinery of Government changes. As part of these changes, responsibility for early childhood education and care was transferred to the Social Services portfolio, and responsibility for vocational education and skills was transferred into the portfolio from the Industry portfolio. This list of legislation administered by the department preceded the Machinery of Government changes.

Matters dealt with by the Department

- Schools education policy and programmes, including vocational education and training in schools, but excluding migrant adult education
- Schooling transitions policy and programmes including career pathways
- Education and training transitions policy and programmes
- Youth affairs and programmes, including youth transitions
- Early childhood and childcare policy and programmes
- Co-ordination of early childhood development policy and responsibilities
- Higher education policy, regulation and programmes
- Policy, coordination and support for international education and research engagement
- Co-ordination of research policy in relation to universities
- Creation and development of research infrastructure
- Research grants and fellowships

Legislation administered by the Minister

- *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) Act 1999*, insofar as it relates to child care benefit, child care rebate, child care services and registered carers
- *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999*, insofar as it relates to child care benefit, child care rebate, child care services and registered carers
- *A New Tax System (Family Assistance and Related Measures) Act 2000*, insofar as it relates to child care benefit, child care rebate, child care services and registered carers
- *Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Act 2008*
- *Australian Education Act 2013*
- *Australian Education (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2013*
- *Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Act 1989*
- *Australian National University Act 1991*
- *Australian Research Council Act 2001*
- *Australian Research Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 2001*
- *Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Act 2005*

- *Child Care Act 1972*
- *Child Support Legislation Amendment (Reform of the Child Support Scheme – New Formula and Other Measures) Act 2006*, insofar as it relates to child care benefit, child care rebate, child care services and registered carers
- *Early Years Quality Fund Special Account Act 2013*
- *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000*
- *Education Services for Overseas Students (Consequential and Transitional) Act 2000*
- *Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration Charges) Act 1997*
- *Education Services for Overseas Students (TPS Levies) Act 2012*
- *Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Child Care Management System and Other Measures) Act 2007*
- *Higher Education Funding Act 1988*
- *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, except to the extent administered by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
- *Higher Education Support (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 2003*
- *States Grants (Advanced Education) Act 1976*
- *Schools Assistance Act 2008*
- *Schools Assistance (Learning Together – Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) Act 2004*
- *Scout Association Act 1924*
- *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011*
- *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Act 2011*